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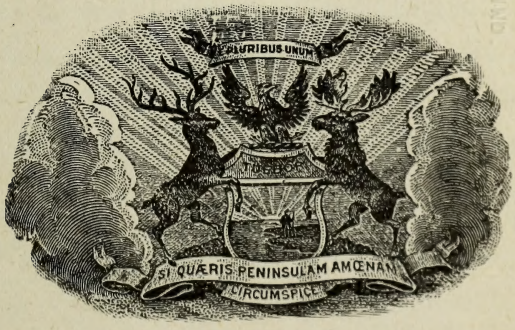
HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS

COLLECTIONS AND RESEARCHES

MADE BY THE

Michigan Pioneer and Historical Society

Vol. XXIV



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PREFACE.

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The members of the Committee of Historians of the Michigan Pioneer and Historical Society again congratulate themselves and the society generally that they are now able to present another volume which shall be Volume 24, and like Vols. 19, 20 and 23, entirely devoted to copies of original documents from the Canadian Archives, obtained at Ottawa.

Each of these volumes are adding greatly in their interest as we learn the facts they contain, also show that Michigan came very near having been lost as a part of the United States and this Volume shows more in this respect than any heretofore presented.

In proof of this we refer to the letters of Lieut. Gov. Simcoe, on pages 324, 377, 459, 472, 478, etc., and on pages 338 and 402, "The Memorial of Montreal Merchants," as bearing upon the same subject.

MICHAEL SHOEMAKER, Chairman, Jackson,
HENRY H. HOLT, Muskegon,
L. D. WATKINS, Manchester,
J. WILKIE MOORE, Detroit,
GERRIT J. DIEKEMA, Holland,
CYRUS G. LUCE, Coldwater,
Committee of Historians.

September 4, 1895.

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ERRATA.

Page 208, ninth line from top, for *Corn Killer*, read *Cow Killer*.

Page 211 to 326, inclusive, where *J. Knox* appears read *H. Knox*. This error also exists in the copy at Ottawa.

Page 281, in head line to letter and at top of page, for *Major Stagg, Jr.*, read *Dg. De Bartchie.*

MICHIGAN

PIONEER AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS.

COPIES OF PAPERS ON FILE IN THE DOMINION ARCHIVES AT OTTAWA CANADA, PERTAINING TO MICHIGAN, AS FOUND IN THE COLONIAL OFFICE RECORDS.

NOTE.—Care has been taken in publishing the following papers to follow the original copies closely as possible, including orthography, punctuation, capitalization, etc. The references in brackets at the close of each paper are the filings in the Dominion Archives at Ottawa.

CANADIAN ARCHIVES.

COLONIAL OFFICE RECORDS.

[Continued from Volume 23.]

ARTICLES OF CAPITULATION.

8th Sept 1760

Articles of Capitulation Between their Excellencies Major General Amherst, Commander in Chief of his Britannic Majesty's Troops and Forces in North America on the one part and the Marquis de Vaudreuil &c Governor and Lieutenant General for the King in Canada on the other.

ARTICLE XXXIX.

None of the Canadians, Acadians or French, who are now in Canada, and on the Frontiers of the Colony, on the side of Acadia, Detroit, Michillimaquinac, and other places and posts of the Countries above,

the married and unmarried Soldiers, remaining in Canada, shall be carried or transported into the British Colonies, or to Great Britain, and they shall not be troubled for having carried arms. "Granted, except with regard to the Acadians."

Done at Montreal, the 8th of September 1760.

"VAUDREUIL"

Granted except what regards the Acadians.

Done in the Camp before Montreal the 8th of September 1760

"JEFFERY AMHERST."

[Q 291-2, 417]

COL. GOLDTHWAIT'S TALK WITH INDIANS.

Col. Goldthwaits Talk with a Mataugwesauwack Indian who is now among the Penobscot Indians. This talk was in July 1771.

Q What nation of Indians do you belong to?

A I am a Mataugwesauwack.

Q Where is the Mataugwesauwack Country?

A Very far off.

Q Can you describe to me where it is?

A I will do so as well as I can. There's a Lake which you call the Great Lake (meaning Lake Superior) The Nation of Indians to which I belong are beyond that Lake towards the setting of the sun.

Q Do you know that the Sun setts in different places at different Seasons of the year?

A I speak of this Season. The Sun is our guide when we travel in unknown Countries.

Q Are your Indians numerous?

A They are very numerous & they occupy great space of country.

Q Have you been at Montreal?

A I have been there often.

Q Are there many Indian Nations between Montreal & the Mataugwesauwack Country?

A There are a great many.

Q Can you name them?

A I will name some which have come to my knowledge. There are the Connawaugas & Cannasodoggas near Montreal, There's the remains

of some nations of Indians near Michilimacanack & at Meromona, There's an Indian Village called Winnebago & another of the same name. There's the Wonsaugas & Ottawaus and Wontaugamases. There's nations I haven't much knowledge of, but have been acquainted with some Indians belonging to them. From my Country to Canada we pass by a great many Indian Nations. Some of the Names I remember & some I do not, I can describe that Country better to you upon a bark. When we get upon the Track of my Country, we pass by many great Nations. There's a nation called Annundowesauwacks which is a powerful nation & is most always at war with the Nations round about them. Another nation Called Pannegn & another called Paunooks & many more which I'll mark upon the Bark. We fight one battle every year with some of them.

This nation of Annundowesauwacks appears to me from his account to lye West from the Head of the Missippi River.

[Q 56–2, p 489]

COMMISSION TO PATRICK SINCLAIR AS LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR AND SUPERINTENDENT OF MICHILLIMACKINAC.*

George R.

George the Third, by the Grace of God, King of Great Britain, France and Ireland, Defender of the faith &c. To our Trusty and well beloved Patrick Sinclair Esqr. Greeting; We reposing especial Trust and Confidence in your Loyalty, Integrity and Ability do by these presents, constitute and appoint you to be Lieutenant Governor & Superintendant of the Post situated between the Lakes Huron and Michigan, heretofore called Missilimackinac, in our Province of Quebec, in America, To have, hold, exercise and enjoy the same, from and after the first day of May next, during our pleasure, with all the Rights, Privileges, Profits, Perquisites and Advantages to the same belonging or appertaining, and you are to obey such Orders and Directions as you shall from time to time receive from our Captain General

* Enclosed in the petition of Col. Patrick Sinclair, dated 17th April, 1797.

and Governor in Chief of our Province of Quebec or from the Lieutenant or Commander in Chief of our said Province for the time being.

Given at our Court at St James the seventh day of April 1775. In the sixteenth day of our Reign.

By His Majesty's Command

DARTMOUTH

Patrick Sinclair Esqr Lieut Govr and Superintendant of Missilimackinac

Endorsed:—Copy
Col Patrick Sinclair's Commsn as Lieut Governor & Superintendant of Missilimackinac dated 7th April 1775
The petition of Col Patrick Sinclair late Lt Govr of Michilimackinac
R 18th April 1797.

[Q 57–2, p 463]

LIST OF VESSELS.

List of Vessels built, purchased or taken into the Service from the Month of July 1778.

Vessels Names.	Remarks.
Wyandot	Built at Detroit in 1778 now on Lake Erie
New Ship at Detroit	Built at Detroit in 1782 now on Lake Erie
4 Large Scows & one Gun Boat 4 Boats or vessels besides Batteaux	Built at Detroit between 1778 and 1782.

[Q 56–2, p 552]

SPEECH OF CHIEFS OF THE SHAWANESE, MINGOES AND DELAWARES TO COL. A. MC KEE.

KISAPOE 20th Septr 1781.

FATHER,

Listen to yr children you told them to be strong and mind what the Americans are about, to remain quiet and speak good to them at the same time to be upon their guard.

You & the Six Nations put something into our hands & told us to hold it fast & when we forgot, to look at it, & it would put us in fresh Remembrance of what we had recd it for.

You know some time ago we were invited to a Council, we were advis'd not to go, we listin'd & did not go, nor did we mind what they said to us, you told us if they sent any Belts or Speeches to return a Good Answer, we have done as you desir'd us.

The Americans have invited us to another Council but we are determin'd not to go, let the consequence be what it will, you told us to let them be the aggressors & then we shou'd know what was best to be done. Our situation is bad at present, we expect they will soon be in our Towns, & that before we can even receive yr answer. But you must be strong who have the care of all the Brown Skins & assist them. Their Dependance is upon you. We mean to defend ourselves to the last man, before we give up our Lands & we will spare none, if they begin with us; we likewise desire you to inform all the Indians about Detroit our situation immediately, let them be strong and consider for the best, as the Americans we see are determin'd to take the Country from them & us, we beg of you (Father) at any rate to tell the Hurons, Ottaways, Chippaways & Six Nations as soon as possible & bid them be strong, there is wampum gone thro' all the Indians to the same purpose.

From the Chiefs of the Shawanese, Mingoes & Dellawares

To
Alexr McKee
Deputy Superintendent
In. Affairs.

Indorsed:—Speeches addressed by the Nations on the South Side of Lake Erie to Alex McKee Esq.

[Q 56-2, p 582]

RETURN

Return of Officers & Men in His Majesty's Provincial naval Service with their present Stations.

QUEBEC 3rd August 1783

Names	On what Lake or Service	Military.									Civil.														Remarks
		Master & Commander	Lieut & Commander	1st Lieuts	2nd Lieuts	Masters	Mates	Boatswains	Seamen	Total	Commissioner	Clerk of Cheque	Clerk to ye Dept	Storekeepers	Builders	Surgeon	Pilot	Boatswain of ye Yard	Foremanships	Shipwrights	Sawyer	Blacksmith		Total	
Alexr Grant	Lake Erie	1								78															
Alexr Harrow			1																						
James Graham			1																						
Donald McQuarry				1																					
Wm Thorn						1																			
Henry Ford						1																			
Norman McKay						1																			
James Anderston						1																			
James Stevens							1																		
Francis Brown							1																		
George Andrews							1																		
Boatswains								6																	
Seamen									61																
John Laughton	Detroit									11				1											
J. Williams															1										
J. Halffy																1									
J. Allen																		1							
Shipwrights																				4					
Sawyers																					2				
Blacksmiths																						1			

[Q 56-2, p 562 a]

LT. COL. A. S. DE PEYSTER, LT. GOV. HENRY HAMILTON AND MAJ. R. MATHEWS CERTIFY TO THE GOOD CHARACTER OF CAPT. M. ELLIOTT.

I do hereby certify that the bearer Mr Mathew Elliot, an officer in the Indian Department, has during my command at Detroit behaved himself with great bravery and good conduct both in action and upon all other occasions when he had an opportunity to shew his Loyalty to His Majesty.

Given under my hand at Detroit this 23rd day of Augt 1783.

Ar. S. De Peyster
Lt. Colonel
Commanding Detroit
&c. &c. &c.

This is to certify that Mathew Elliott was employed and paid by me when Lieutenant Governor and Superintendant at Detroit. That to the best of my knowledge, he has acquitted himself with zeal and activity and I willingly take this opportunity of recommending him to his superiors as a man of spirit, and deserving encouragement. Given under my hand at Quebec, This 20th day of July 1784.

To whom it may concern

Henry Hamilton
Lieut Governor.

In Justice to the Bearer hereof Captain Mathew Elliot, late of the Indian Department, whose character and conduct I have (from my situation at Head Quarters) had occasion to be particularly acquainted with.

I hereby certify that he flew from the then Colonies in the year 1776, and Joined the King's Troops in this Province, with whom he served during the whole war; to the entire satisfaction of the Commander in Chief, and the officers commanding the Upper Posts, having upon variety of occasions distinguished himself as an active, useful and gallant Partizan. And I also certify that I have always understood Mr Elliot had made great sacrifice of Property in the part he so early adopted in the late contest.

R. Mathews Maj 53rd
Commanding the Upper Posts.

Detroit 16th Augt 1787.

[Q 299, p 313]

TREATY OF PEACE.

Articles of the Definitive Treaty of Peace concluded at *Paris*, between His Britannic Majesty and the United States of *America* on the 3rd of September 1783

ARTICLE I.—His Britannic Majesty acknowledges the said *United States* vizt. *New Hampshire, Massachusetts Bay, Rhode Island* and *Providence Plantations, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina* and *Georgia*, to be free, Sovereign and independent States; that he treats with them as such; and for himself, his heirs and successors, relinquishes all claim to the Government, propriety and territorial rights of the same, and every part thereof.

ART. II.—And that all disputes which might arise in future, on the subject of the boundaries of the said *United States*, may be prevented, it is hereby agreed and declared that the following are and shall be their boundaries, vizt From the North west angle of *Nova Scotia*, viz. that angle which is formed by a line drawn due north from the source of *Saint Croix* River to the high lands; along the said high lands, which divide those rivers that empty themselves into the the *Saint Lawrence*, from those which fall into the Atlantic Ocean, to the North Westernmost head of *Connecticut* River, thence down along the middle of that river to the forty fifth degree of North latitude, from thence by a line due west on said latitude, until it strikes the river *Iroquois* or Cataraquay; thence along the middle of said River into Lake *Ontario*, through the middle of said Lake, until it strikes the communication by water between that Lake and Lake *Erie*; thence along the middle of said communication into Lake *Erie* through the middle of said lake until it arrives at the water communication between that Lake and Lake *Huron*; thence along the middle of said water communication into the lake *Huron*, thence through the middle of said Lake to the water communication between that Lake and Lake *Superior*; thence through Lake *Superior*, northward of the *Isles Royal* and *Phelipeaux*, to the long lake, thence through the middle of said long lake, and the water communication between it and the Lake of the *Woods*, to the said Lake of the *Woods*; thence through the said lake to the most northwestern point thereof and from thence on a due west course to the River Mississippi; thence by a line to be drawn along the middle of the river *Mississippi* until it shall intersect the northernmost part of

the thirty first degree of North latitude, South by a line to be drawn due east from the determination of the line last mentioned, in the latitude of thirty one degrees north of the equator, to the middle of the river *Apalachicola*, or *Catahouche*; thence along the middle thereof to its junction with the *Flint* river; thence strait to the head of *St. Mary's* River, and thence down along the middle of *St Mary's* River, to the Atlantic Ocean, East, by a line to be drawn along the middle of the River *St Croix*, from its mouth to the Bay of *Fundy* to its source, and from its source directly north to the aforesaid highlands, which divide the rivers that fall into the Atlantic Ocean from those which fall into the River *St Lawrence*; comprehending all Islands within twenty leagues of any part of the shores of the *United States*, and lying between lines to be drawn due east from the points where the aforesaid boundaries between *Nova Scotia* on the one part, and *East Florida* on the other, shall respectively touch the Bay of *Fundy* and the Atlantic Ocean; excepting such Islands as now are, and heretofore have been within the limits of the said province of Nova Scotia.

ART. III.—It is agreed that the people of the *United States* shall continue to enjoy unmolested the right to take fish of every kind on the Grand Bank, and all the other Banks of *Newfoundland*; also in the Gulph of *Saint Lawrence*, and all other places in the sea, where the Inhabitants of both Countries used at any time heretofore to fish; and also that the Inhabitants of the *United States* shall have liberty to take fish of every kind on such part of the coast of *Newfoundland* as British fishermen shall use (but not to dry or cure the same on that Island) and also on the coasts, bays and creeks, of all other of his Birtannic Majesty's dominions in *America*, and that the American Fishermen shall have liberty to dry and cure fish in any of the unsettled bays, harbours and creeks, of *Nova Scotia*, *Magdalen* Islands and *Labrador* so long as the same shall remain unsettled, but so soon as the same or either of them shall be settled, it shall not be lawful for the said fishermen to dry or cure fish at such settlement, without a previous agreement for that purpose with the inhabitants, proprietors or possessors of the ground.

ART. IV.—It is agreed, that creditors on either side shall meet with no lawful impediment to the recovery of the full value in sterling money, of all *bona fide* debts heretofore contracted.

ART. V.—It is agreed that Congress shall earnestly recommend it to the legislatures of the respective States, to provide for the restitution of all estates, rights and proprieties, which have been confiscated, belonging to real British Subjects, and also of the Estates, rights and proprieties of persons resident in districts, in the possession of his Majesty's Arms, and who have not borne arms against the said *United States* and that persons of any other description shall have free liberty to go into any part or parts of any of the thirteen *United States*, and therein to remain twelve months unmolested in their endeavours to obtain the restitution of such of their estates rights and properties, as may have been confiscated; and that Congress shall also earnestly recommend to the several States a reconsideration and revision of all Acts or Laws regarding the premises, so as to render the said Laws or Acts perfectly consistent not only with Justice and equity, but with that spirit of conciliation, which on the return of the blessings of peace should universally prevail. And that Congress shall also earnestly recommend to the several States, that the estates rights and properties of such last mentioned persons shall be restored to them; they refunding to any person who may be now in possession of the *bona fide* price (where any has been given) which such persons may have paid on purchasing any of the said lands, rights or properties since the confiscation.

And it is agreed, that all persons who have any interest in confiscated lands, either by debts, marriage settlements, or otherwise, shall meet with no lawful impediment in the prosecution of their just rights.

ART. VI.—That there shall be no future confiscations made, nor any prosecutions commenced against any person or persons for or by reason of the part which he or they may have taken in the present war; and that no person shall, on that account, suffer any future loss or damage, either in his person, liberty or property, and that those who may be in confinement on such charges, at the time of the ratification of the Treaty in *America*, shall be immediately set at liberty, and the prosecutions so commenced be discontinued.

ART. VII.—There shall be a firm and perpetual peace between his Britannic Majesty and the said *United States* and between the subjects of the one and the citizens of the other, wherefore all hostilities both by sea and land shall from henceforth cease; all prisoners on both sides shall be set at liberty, and his Britannic Majesty shall, with all

convenient speed, and without causing any destruction, or carrying away any negroes, or other property of the American inhabitants, withdraw all his Armies, garrisons & fleets from the said *United States*, and from every port place and harbour within the same; leaving in all fortifications the American Artillery that may be therein; and shall also order, and cause all archives, records, deeds and papers, belonging to any of the said *States*, or their Citizens, which in the course of the war may have fallen into the hands of his officers, to be forthwith restored and delivered to the *proper States* and persons to whom they belong.

ART. VIII.—The navigation of the *Mississippi* from its source to the Ocean, shall forever remain free and open to the subjects of *Great Britain* and the citizens of the *United States*.

ART. IX.—In case it should so happen, that any place or territory belonging to *Great Britain*, or to the *United States* should have been conquered by the arms of either from the other, before the arrival of the said provisional articles in *America*, it is agreed, that the same shall be restored without difficulty, and without requiring any compensation.

ART. X.—The solemn ratifications of the present Treaty, expedited in good and due form, shall be exchanged between the contracting parties in the space of six months, or sooner, if possible, to be computed from the day of the signature of the present treaty.

In Witness whereof we the undersigned, their ministers Plenipotentiary, have in their name, and in virtue of our full powers signed with our hands the present definitive treaty and caused the seals of our arms to be affixed thereto.

Done at Paris, this third day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty three.

DAVID HARTLEY (L. S.)
JOHN ADAMS (L. S.)
B. FRANKLIN (L. S.)
JOHN JAY (L. S.)

[Q 291-2, p 487]

LIST OF VESSELS.

A list of His Majesty's armed vessels upon Lake Erie &c with the numbers of men requisite for compleating them for service for the year 1783.

No.	Vessel's Name.	Number of guns.	Number of tons.	Number of seamen.	Number of Troops.	Remarks.
1	Gage	12	114	30	15	Built at Detroit in the year 1774.
2	Dunmore	10	70	25	10	Ditto Ditto
3	Hope	6	70	18	12	Ditto 1772 lost in Novr 1783, Wt. all her furniture & spare stores.
4	Wyandot	-----	37	10	10	Ditto 1778.
5	Faith	-----	37	10	10	Ditto 1775 lost in Novr 1783, with all her furniture & spare stores.
6	Angelica	-----	59	12	12	Ditto 1772 & lost in a squall in Novr 1783, all furniture & spare stores on board.
7	Adventure	-----	18	8	10	Ditto 1776.
9	Welcome	-----	45	12	12	Built at Michilimakinac 1775 lost in 1781 with all her furniture & spare stores.
10	New vessel Rebecca	-----	136	35	20	Built at Detroit 1782.
11	New sloop at Mackinac	-----	-----	-----	-----	

[Q 56-2, p 532]

ESTIMATE.

Calculation of one year's pay of officers & seamen serving on Lake Erie.

No.	Quality.	Pay pr. Month.	Pay pr. Day.	Sum Stg @ 4s 8d pr Dollar.			Remarks.
1	Commander	-----	15*s*	273	15	-----	
1	Mr. & Commr	-----	10*s*	182	10	-----	Absent upon leave.
2	Lt. & Commr	-----	6*s*	109	10	-----	
1	1st Lieut	-----	4*s* 6*d*	82	2	6	
5	Masters	-----	4*s* 4*d*	395	6	8	
5	Mates	-----	3*s* 6*d*	319	7	6	
6	Boatswains	60*s*	-----	234	-----	-----	
3	Gunners	60*s*	-----	117	-----	-----	
1	Bots & Steward	65*s*	-----	42	5	-----	
5	Stewards	45*s*	-----	146	5	-----	
85	Seamen	40*s*	-----	2210	-----	-----	
2	Servts	40*s*	-----	52	-----	-----	
2	Do	30*s*	-----	39	-----	-----	
6	Do	20*s*	-----	78	-----	-----	
			Stg £	4281	1	8	

[Q 56-2, p 549]

ESTIMATE.

Calculation of one year's pay of the Civil and Naval Department at Detroit.

Number.	Quality.	Pay pr. Month.	Pay pr. Day.	Sum Stg @ 4s 8d pr. Dollar.			Remarks.
1	Naval Storekeeper		5s	91	5		
1	Builder		6s	109	10		
1	Surgeon		3s	54	15		
1	Foreman Shipwt		5s	91	5		
1	Boatswain of ye yard		4s	73			
9	Shipwrights		4s	657			
1	Do		3s 6d	63	17	6	
4	Do		3s	164	5		
1	Joiner		3s 6d	63	17	6	
2	———		3s	109	10		
1	Blacksmiths		3s 6d	63	17	6	
1			1s	18	5		
1	Blockmaker		4s	73			
2	Sawyers		1s	36	10		
2	Labourers		1s	36	10		
			Stg. £	1706	2		

[Q 56–2, p 550]

RETURN.

Return of Artificers supposed to be able to keep the vessels in repair at each Post.

Quality.	St. Johns.	Carleton Island.	Detroit.	Niagara.	Oswego.	Total.	Remarks.
Shipwrights			10				The shipwrights at Carleton Island & Detroit have all the Batteaux to keep in repair & caulk. & if part of them was sent down in the summer it would be impossible to get them sent up in time to repair the fleet.
Joiners			1				
Blacksmiths			2				
Sawyers			2				
Blockmakers			1				

[Q 56–2, p 554]

GENERAL RETURN CONTINUED—LAKE ERIE.

Number.	Vessels Names.	No. of guns.	No. of tons.	War Complt. No. of men.	War Complt. No. of troops.	The total number the vessels will carry across ye lake.	The number of seamen to navigate as merchant ships.	The difference of the numbers.	Remarks.
1	Gage	12	114	30	15	171	12	18	I cannot ascertain any number of Batteaux at Detroit as the custom is to let the Indians have them who I believe seldom make any return but with the large Gun Boats and the eight Petit Augers, two Rowing Boats & 10 Batteaux which I think they have at this time, about 300 men would be taken from Detroit with 14 days provision besides what is mentioned in the fleet.
2	Dunmore	10	70	25	10	100	10	15	
3	Hope	6	70	18	12	100	8	10	
4	Wyandot	------	17	10	10	55	5	5	
5	Faith	------	37	10	10	55	6	4	
6	Anjelica	------	59	12	12	88	7	5	
7	Felicity	------	45	12	12	67	5	7	The amount of souls the armed vessels will carry 934
8	Adventure	------	18	8	10	27	5	3	Ditto in small vessels & boats 300
9	Welcome	------	45	12	12	67	5	7	1234
10	New vessel Rebecca	------	136	35	20	204	15	20	
11	New vessel built by Govr Sinclair at Makanac	------	------	------	------	------	------	------	
		28	631	172	123	934	78	94	

[Q 56-2, p 560]

DOCUMENTS* RELATIVE TO LAND ON DETROIT RIVER GRANTED TO LT. COL. H. BIRD.

No 1.

We the Proprietors of an Indian Grant made in the month of June 1784 by the several Indian Nations in and about Detroit in favor of Alexr Mc Kee, Wilet Caldwell, Matthew Elliott, and Henry Bird Esqrs Mr. Anthony St Martin Mr Charles McCormack Mr Robin Eurphleet Mr Thomas McKee and Mr Simon Girty Do hereby consent and agree that the tract of land directly opposite the Island of Bois Blanc be divided into four parts and that the upper or North Division be allotted to the above mentioned Henry Bird as his share, and that the said fourth part allotted to the said Henry Bird shall run back as far as the small river or creek which empties itself into the Lake, seven miles more or less (coasting) from the lower end of Bois Blanc, or as

* Numbers 1 and 2 enclosed in the memorial of Lt. Col. Henry Bird, Feb. 11, 1818.

much more on the other side the creek as the Proprietors may consent to or allot to themselves. As a mark of our consent we hereunto set our hands this twenty fifth day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty four in presence of each other.

A. McKee
Matthew Elliott
Anthony St Martin

[Q 303, p 182]

No 2

Be it known to all whom it may concern that I Henry Bird late Captain in the King's Regiment of Foot do give unto Agnes Hazel of Detroit and unto Judith Hicks sisters the southernmost of my two houses and the lot of land *situate* between the two runs or creeks on the East side of the river of Detroit opposite the Isle Bois Blanc which they may cultivate of themselves or by their assigns. I do give the said house and land to the aforesaid Agnes Hazel and Judith Hicks until such land and house be reclaimed and demanded by me the said Henry Bird or my Heirs Executors or Assigns, on which claim or demand the aforesaid house and land is to be redelivered free from all charges for buildings labour or cost of any kind that may have been erected or furnished by the aforesaid Agnes Hazel or Judith Hicks or their Assigns. But they may remove any such buildings at the redelivery of the lot that may have been erected after the date of this deed, and if they or their assigns should have a crop on the land when it is redemanded and claimed they are to have the advantage of such crop—further the said house and lot is not to be suddenly abandon'd or left without proper persons to take care that the house be not damaged or destroyed.

In witness that this is my free will and deed I hereunto set my hand and seal in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty four and on the 31st day of August in presence of

Barnaby McCudding his mark X

Henry Bird [L. S.]

We Agnes Hazel and Judith Hicks do consent to receive the house and lot mentioned and described in the premises on the conditions therein proposed and do mean God willing to conform to the true spirit and meaning of this deed.

Agnes Hazel her mark X
Judith Hicks her mark X

Witness
Alexr McCormick

I Edward Hazel do agree and consent that my wife Agnes Hazel shall receive her part of the house and lot on the conditions proposed in the deed contained in this paper.

EDWARD HAZEL

Witness

BARNABY MCCUDDING his mark X

W. PAULETT

No 3

NEW YORK Octr 27th 1788

DEAR SIR

The pleasing period being at length arrived when you were to touch the fortune left you, I have taken the liberty of sending your bond and account current to my friends Messrs Phyn Ellice & Inglis No 27 Mark Lane London for Payment & request you will pay to them and their discharge shall be an acquittance from Alex & Wm Macomb; the amount of our demand 1st May last is £1135 2*s* 11*d* New York Currency, to which interest until payment will be added.

You need not urge the cheerfulness with which we advanced you this money nor the patience with which we have waited your convenience, as motives to prompt you to repay us, we are perfectly assured of your honourable intentions and do not hazard a doubt of your inclinations to discharge our demand if you possibly can, we shall say no more on this subject.

The politics of this country have for some time been fluctuating, while the States were undecided on the subject of the new constitution of Government which was proposed for their adoption, in the meanwhile peace and tranquility prevailed throughout the union during the important deliberation; at present things have every appearance of making that peace and tranquility permanent from the almost general concurrence of the States towards the new form of Government, which is to be organized in this city the first Wednesday in March next. We promise ourselves much from its consolidation & energetic principles, and we hope it will make the country respected as a nation and perhaps may be the means of inducing many respectable families from Europe coming to reside among us & in the number perhaps Capt Bird.

I visited Detroit last summer & left in August last, things are very much changed indeed since your departure. Half the houses in the Main Street empty and three fourths of the merchants Bankrupts. Your farms at Fredericksburg very little advanced from what they were when you saw them altho' Mr Hazel still lives there he has not done much clearing.

The new settlements made by government on the St Lawrence have increased astonishingly; from the Sugar Loaf in Lake Erie to Toronto in Lake Ontario is closely inhabited and from sixty miles west of Cudarwquy to the Cedars is equally so, and all thriving. At Detroit farms on the same principle are laid out as far as point Peleé but few of them yet in occupation. I shall be happy to hear from you, make my compts to Mrs Bird and family.

I am Dr Sir

Yr. obedt. Servt

ALEXR MACOMB

Superscribed to Captn Henry Bird late of the King's or 8th Regt at Goytree near Ponty Pool Monmouthshire.

[Q 303, p 183]

LETTER TO LEAN NEPEAU.

DETROIT September 1st 1784.

SIR

The complaisance and friendship I experienced from you when I received my appointment from the Earl of Shelburn, and the persuasion I have of your willingness to support such persons in their Right, induced me to write to you from Montreal the 8th of October 1782; after which I was detained there by His Excellency the Commander in Chief until October following, being frequently told to wait for orders which he daily expected regarding this Country.

The 28th of October 1783 finding those expected orders were not come, and my character daily suffering from this Taut attack of being eighteen months detained from my Government, I went to Quebec (the last ships for Europe being there ready to sail) and requested His Excellency's permission to return to England, as I was not of any service to my Country & put to great and exhorbitant expenses instead of being in the Execution of my office. This was refused & tho the orders above mentioned were not arrived, His Excellency told me it was not proper I should go home; and in two days order'd me to repair to my government without loss of time, at so advanced a season of the year it was next to an impossibility I could perform a Journey by the Lakes of nine hundred miles; which tho' in a bad state of health I attempted, but was taken so ill when I arrived at Lake

Ontario that my Life was despaired of, which together with the severeness of weather obliged me to return to Montreal the 8th of December. This Spring my health was so far returned as to be able to sett out again the 22d May but did not reach this place untill the 12th July—now I find myself so much straightened in authority that I can not in Justice to myself be silent upon it.

The Indian Department which Lieut Governor Hamilton (and all my predecessors) had the sole direction of at this Post as Superintendent by his Commission, and whom I succeeded in that office, I am forbid to meddle in; and tho' I am ordered to prevent abuses, the means are taken out of my hands, His Excellency the Commander in Chief having approved of appointments from Sir John Johnson as Superintendent General, of a Deputy Agent and Store Keeper here at handsome salarys, who are authorized to act independently of me, and have the entire disposal of all presents and provisions for the Indians as they please, which virtually annuls that part of His Majesty's Commission of Superintendent to me; the silent attack it conveys upon the Integrity of the Commanding officers who preceded me opperates on me. If any have been to blame let them be answerable for their conduct, I was not in office when the Government's money was lavish'd at these places as has been said, and I must say from twenty two years experience the present mode of furnishing and distributing presents to Indians appears to be very defective, and great openings are made for that abuse which it is supposed the regulations for that Department were intended to prevent. When they arrive from England the Superintendent General makes the distribution from the different Posts, and they are sent up at great Expense frequently damaged, and sometimes too late. No rum however is either sent or allowed to be purchased which all who know anything of Indians, will allow a very necessary article, and for which an Indian will sell all the clothes he receives in presents if he cannot obtain it by any other means, but the Deputy Agent has power to *Barter the Presents* sent from England for that commodity here, by which means the *Indian account is not swelled* nor *Bills drawn on Government*, but the articles produced by it must of necessity cost an enormous price. The quantity now made use of by the Deputy Agent amounts to between fifty and sixty Barrels pr year.

There are Twelve Thousand Indian Souls depending on this place, which is more than three times the number of those in the lower part of Canada, and tho' they produce to Government more than all the

six nations do, yet the latter receive much more from Government, and in every respect much more expensive, perhaps double,—all of which in my humble opinion may in time of peace, be much lessened, will not however add anything to my security here to have that opinion made public to them.

As Lord Shelburne did me the Honour to tell when he gave me this appointment that it was a reward for long service and sufferings, & as I have met with nothing but disappointments, loss of time and considerable expence, since my arrival in this country I can not help mentioning one grievance which I hope you may & will alleviate.

Since the last French war in America the Commanding officer of the Troops here has been & is allowed about £140 pr year for his Extra Expences. The Lieut Governor who of necessity must contract many, has no allowance, but from his Commission has a right to all Emoluments & Perquisites &cc of which the only one worth being mentioned, is the Rents and Lots et Ventes, due to the Crown which if duly paid may amount to between two & three Hundred pounds p year, but has lately been ordered by His Excellency the Commander in Chief to be accounted for to the Receiver General in Canada, and which I begg you will procure me an order for receiving, at least prevent its being paid into the treasury untill I have an opportunity of laying my losses & extra Expences before those who may be authorized to examine them.

Under the French Government the Lieut Governor or Commandant had the forming all the places of Trade depending on this Post as his Emoluments and which was worth not less than a thousand p year. Instead of which if His Excellency General Haldimand's plan is pursued I must exist on my bear salary. The Spanish Lieut Governors and Commandants on the Mississippi have now the same priviledges. I do not mean by this that I either wish or expect any thing of the kind as it would be inconsistent with the priviledges of a commercial people, but did expect and yet hope I shall be enabled to support myself in a manner as Honourable to my Country as myself.

The Commerce of this Place is becoming more and more considerable, the Peltrys sent from it this Year will amount to one hundred Thousand Pounds Sterling, all which is the produce of English Manufactures, except a small portion of Rum, and I think if the Post is not given up to the Americans it will increase, for the Spaniards can not send coarse Woolen manufactures up the Mississippi to supply their Trade near so cheap as the English by their Communication, as a proof

of which they have this year bartered several Cargoes of Peltry with our Traders for these Commodities, and in short cannot carry on their Trade without them, while we keep possession of the Lakes.

As I am forbid meddling with Indian Affairs (the nobody better acquainted with their customs) if I do not give you very particular Intelligence of their temper &ca I must stand excused. I will however venture to say that if the Americans continue their present encroachments, it will not be long before you hear of a rupture between them.

The Congress dividing the ceded Country into new States, added to the inconsiderate behaviour of the Lawless Frontier People who have marked out a large Town opposite the Falls of the Ohio, and several other less improvements can not but be alarming to the Indians.

I beg Sir You will lay or communicate the whole or any part of this Letter you think proper to Lord Sidney or the person you think has it in his Power to afford me redress.

The great distance I am at from England and not knowing who are in office, obliges me to request your interference, which I make no doubt will have the desired effect.

If you wish for any information I am capable of giving you regarding this place from time to time I shall do myself the pleasure of giving it as fully as I possibly can.

I am Sir
With great respect
Your most obedient
Most humble Servant
(No signature.)

LEAN NEPEAU ESQR

Since I wrote the above I have received a List of upwards of thirty Families amounting to one hundred and fifty souls who are desirous of coming here to settle, from near Fort Pitt they are people who did not take up arms against their Sovereign in the late Rebellion, but who formerly served him as soldiers and wish to live under the same government. As I have no authority to grant any of the vacant Lands at this place to them, I cannot give them that encouragement I could wish, but have reported them to His Excellency the Commander in Chief, there are besides near one hundred others in this Settlement who have been faithful Subjects but who must fly the place if Lands is not granted them to cultivate and gain subsistence.

[Q 56-2, p 564]

MESSAGE TO CHIPPAWAS & OTTAWAS BY R. CLARK AND RICHARD BUTLER.

Sachems and warriors of the Upper Cheppawa & Ottawa Nations.

We desire you will hearken to our Messengers and Brothers James Rankin or those whom they may send to you in our name with this our Message, and believe the words which they shall deliver to you from us.

War being at an end and Peace concluded between the United States, and the King of Great Britain, between the United States and the Indians of the Six Nations, at a Treaty held at Fort Stanwix in October last, between the United States and the Wiondots and Delawares and such of the Ottawas and Chepawas as attended at Fort McIntosh, we now inform you in the name of the Congress of the United States, that it is their wish to live in Peace with all Nations; and that they have directed us their Commissioners for negotiating Treaties with all the Nations of Indians from the middle of the Great Lakes Ontario, Huron, Erie, Superior southward to the Ohio and Mississippi rivers inclusive, to call you to the mouth of the Big Miami, for the purpose of holding a general treaty of Peace, and of settling other matters of great importance between the United States & the Indian Nations.

In order to accommodate the different Nations of Indians as much as possible we have determined to meet them & you, at the mouth of the said Miami River on the first day of October next and expect that you will be punctual in attending and that your hearts will be disposed to wipe away past errors, and like men, determine to do which is right.

We expect that you will collect and bring with you all the Prisoners, white and black which were take by you, or Persons who reside among you through the late war. These Prisoners must be restored to us, as a proof of your Sincerity and desire of Peace, protection & friendship from the Congress of the United States.

Done at Carlisle This Thirty first day of July Anno Domini 1785.

R. Clark Seal

Richd Butler Seal

Indorsed: Message to the Upper Chipawa & Ottawa Nations July 31st 1785.

[Q 56–2, p 584]

MESSAGE TO CHIEFS OF WIONDOT NATION BY R. CLARK AND RICHARD BUTLER.

SACHEMS & WARRIORS OF THE WIONDOT NATION.

Peace being happily concluded, between the United States and the Six Nations, Delawares, Wiondots, Chipawas & Ottawas last fall, boundary lines established between the United States & those Nations, which we are determined shall be punctually observed, & adhered to; —we hope the Great Spirit will bless the work, and continue good understanding between us and you and our Children forever.

Congress still wishing to extend their friendship, and to be at Peace with all Nations, have directed us their Commissioners, to call the Indians, West & Northwest of you to the Mouth of the big Miami River, on the Ohio, the first day of October next for the purpose of negotiating a general Peace, that all the Nations of this great Country may be happy, and live in Peace with each other, should any of your Head-men think proper to attend at that place, we shall be glad to take them by the hand & give them welcome.

As John Boggs Esqr is a man well known amongst all the Indian Nations, we send him, our principal Messenger, with the other Gentlemen to call the Nations to the place above mentioned, and we hope you will treat them with friendship & give them any assistance they may want to forward them on their way.

Should they want any of your young men, to go with them as guides and companions, we wish you to send them and promise to reward them for their trouble, when we meet as above mentioned.

Done at Carlisle this Third day of Augt 1785.

R. CLARK Seal
RICHD BUTLER Seal.

Indorsed. Message to Wiondot Nation Augt 3d 1785.

[Q 56-2, p 586]

TREATY AT THE BIG MIAMIS.

Articles of a Treaty Concluded at the Mouth of the Great Miamis on the North Western Bank of the Ohio, The Thirty first day of January, one Thousand seven hundred & Eighty Six, Between the Commissioners Plenipotentiary of the United States of America of the one part, and the chiefs and Warriors of the Shawanes Nation of the other part.

ARTICLE 1st.—Three Hostages shall be immediatley delivered to the Commissioners to remain in the Possession of the United States, untill all the Prisoners, white and black taken in the late war from among the citizens of the United States by the Shawanese Nation, or by any other Nation, or by any other Indian or Indians residing in their Towns shall be restored.

2d.—The Shawanese Nation do acknowledge the United States to be the sole & absolute Sovereigns of all the Territory ceded to them by a Treaty of Peace made between them and the King of Great Britain the 14th day of January 1784.

3d.—If any Indian or Indians of the Shawanese Nations, or any other Indian or Indians residing in their towns shall commit murder or Robbery on or do any Injury to the citizens of the United States or any other of them, that nation shall deliver such offenders or offender to the officer commanding the nearest Post of the United States to be punished according to the Ordinances of Congress; and in like manner any citizen of the United States who shall do an Injury design'd on or against any of the Shawanese Nation or to any other Indian living in their Towns and under their protection, shall be punished according to the Laws of the United States.

4th.—The Shawanese Nation having knowledge of the Intentions of any Nation or Body of Indians, to make war on the citizens of the United States, or of their councilling together for that purpose, and neglecting to give information thereof to the Commanding officer of the nearest Post of the United States, shall be considered as Parties in such war, and be punished accordingly, and the United States shall in like manner inform the Shawanese of any Injury designed against them.

5th.—United States do grant Peace to the Shawanese Nation, and do receive them into their friendship & protection.

6th.—United States do allot to the Shawanese Nation Land wherein their Territory to live and Hunt upon, beginning at the South line of the Lands alloted to the Wyandots & Delawares, at the place where the main branch of the Great Miamies intersects said line, then down the River Miamies to the fork of that river; next below the old Fort which was taken by the French in 1752, thence due West to the River de la Pawse, then down that River to the River Wabash; beyond which line none of the citizens of the United States shall settle; nor disturb the Shawanese in their Settlements and Possessions, and the Shawanese do relinquish to the United States all

Title they ever had to the lands east, west and South, of the East, west and South lines before described.

7th.—If any Citizen or Citizens of the United States shall presume to settle upon the Lands allotted to the Shawanese by this Treaty, he or they shall be put of the protection of the United States.

In with and Testimony whereof the Parties have Jointly affixed their hands and Seals the day and year first above mentioned.

Attest

Alexander Campbell
William Finorely Major
Thomas Doyle Captain
Nathan Mc Donnell Ens
James Montgomery
Daniel Elliot

John Boggs
James Rankins
Nathan Smith
Isaac Zearns
Joseph Sufferun

The Half King Weyondotts
The Cran Weyondott
Capt. Pipe of the Delawares
Capt. Bohoazchelaus
The Bay Colt

Ationcony
Hawkawepitathy
Mullunthy
Musquathconouth
Waupaucowela
Nihipuwa
Nichinissieve

G. Clark
Richd Butler
Saml H. Parson
} Commissioners of the United States for Indian Affairs.

[Q 56-3, p 592]

INDIAN SPEECH.

Copy of a Speech delivered the 8th Novr 1785 at the Council House at Wakitiwinikie by Peteasuva a speaker of the Shawanese. To American Messengers.

Brethren (of the thirteen fires)

The Weyondott & Delawares met us in the Council House three days ago, and delivered us the Sentiments of Ten Great Nations who speak different languages, and live along the Great Lakes vizt. The Wyondots, Ottawas, Chepawas, Putiwatimies & their Confederates.

BRETHREN

You sent speeches amongst us last year to Invite us who are of one colour to the Council Fire you kindled at Fort Stanwix to the Peace and other good things you said you had to offer us. Soon afterwards you kindled another Council fire at Beaver Creek to which you also Invited us, but you ought to know this is not the way to make a good or lasting Peace to take our Chiefs Prisoners and come with Soldiers at your Backs can never tend to general good between us.

You now again Invite us to another Council Fire at the month of the Great Miamies, Your Messengers have gone through several nations but we are aware of your design to divide our councils, we are unanimous, and it is not right that you kindle fires among Brush or Nettles, Therefore we inform you that at Detroit is the Antient Council Fire of our forefathers, there is the proper place, and when we see you there we will take you by the Hand, which cannot be sooner than next Spring, as we must have time to hear from the other Nations to the Westward, nothing can be done by us, but by General consent, we act and speak like one man.

A String of Wampum with a Pe of Peace

Indorsed: Copy of a Speech delivered at Wakitumekie to Amn Messengers Novr 8th 1785.

[Q 56-3, p 596]

INDIAN MESSAGE.

May 12th 1786.

Message received from the Shawanese dated 29th April.

FATHER,

Last Fall our Brethren the Americans call'd us to the Big Miamies: when we arrived there they said they had something to communicate of importance to our future welfare, and the happiness of our children after us. But alas we heard nothing good from them, they told us that our father had given us to them with our Lands. Their Commissioners assured us that every thing in the articles we now send to you, was agreeable to our best wishes and more generous than we had a right to expect from them, this induced us to sign their proposals, but we find that we have been ignorant of the real purport of them till our return here, our Hostages however that were detained by them are come home safe, we inform you how they have deceived us, by telling

us the King of Great Britain had ceded the whole country to them, and we were not sensible of the error we have committed till our friend Elliot explained it to us.

Father, we request you to be strong and give us the best advice you are capable of in our present situation, you see we have never been in more need of your friendship and good offices, we have been cheated by the Americans who are striving to work our destruction and without your assistance may be able to accomplish their ends, you have too much wisdom not to be convinced of this truth as well as us, we earnestly beg you will consider and send us a speedy answer.

In the mean time we salute you & remain your steady friends

MALOONTHA
SHADE
PAINTED POLE } Principal Chiefs of the Shawanese

Indorsed: Message from the Shawanese May 12th 1786.

[Q 56–2, p 633]

R. MC GILLIN TO COL. A. MC KEE.

SANDUSKY, 14th May 1786

SIR

Yesterday Mr. Gilber arrived here from Pipes Town, who informs me that Mr Piere Druillard and another Frenchman that calls himself an officer have been at the Delaware and Weyondot Towns, telling the Indians not to be surprised as the French and Americans must be now on their march to take possession of the Posts, and that they were coming in three parties, the French by the Wabash, Americans by this place and Niagara.

They say Congress have desired them to tell the Indians to be Strong and assist them in taken peaceable possession of the back Forts being their Property, Mr Gilboe was informed by Druillard that he was employed and received pay from Congress to assist the above officer in negotiating with the Indians, and informing them of the intention of taking possession immediately of Detroit.

I am &ca
R. MCGILLIN.

A. MCKEE Esqr

[Q 56–3, p 637]

INTELLIGENCE FROM SANDUSKY.

May 15th 1786.

Arrived two Huron Chiefs from Sandusky, who inform me that after the public Council was finished between the Indians and Americans at the Mouth of the Big Miamies, the Commissioners call'd the Half King to a private meeting and inform'd him that they had something more to say to him. At the last treaty at Beaver Creek we desired that you would not permit any white People whatever amongst you that had not our Leave or Licence from us to trade in your Country; notwithstanding we still see a number of people continue their intercourse with you, who have no right, and that they even busy themselves with the affairs between you and us to the great detriment of both; and as we wish for your welfare as well as our own, to prevent their officiously intermeddling in things they have no concern, we put the rod into your hands which we desire you to place between you and them; they are not Ignorant of the bounds they are limited to, and must expect chastisement when they transgress them. We mean those people who have been so active during the war to lead you astray and who we find are still endeavoring to continue their influence over you, but you must be convinced it is now Your Interest to shake them off; we have already both suffered by it, and it is time for experience to teach you wisdom.

Shou'd we hereafter find that you neglect the advice we now give you, those people we mention will not escape our resentment when we take possession of Detroit.

A Large Belt blk Wampum.

[Q 56-3, p 635]

CHIEFS OF THE OTTAWA AND CHIPPEWA NATIONS OF DETROIT CEDING LAND FROM RIVER DETROIT TO RIVER CANARD INCLUDING ISLAND BOIS BLANC.

C

No 1.

"Copy—

"Know all men by these Presents, that we the principal Village &
"War Chiefs of the Ottawa & Chepawa Nations of Detroit, for & in
"consideration of the good will, friendship & affection which we have
"for Alexander McKee, who has served with us against the Enemy
"during the late War, have by, & with the consent of the whole of

" our said Nations given, granted, enfeoffed, alienated & confirmed &
" by these Presents do give, grant & enfoeff, alien & confirm unto His
" Majesty George the Third, King of Great Britain, France & Ireland
" &c &c &c, a certain tract or parcel of Land situated on the South
" Side of Detroit River, beginning at the line granted on the seventh
" day of June one thousand seven hundred & eighty four, by the
" Ottawas & Hurons, to Indian officers, & running an easterly course,
" along said line, until it arrives at the end of seven English miles,
" from thence a northerly course, bearing always in breadth seven
" English miles, from the said River Detroit till it strikes the most
" Northern Branch of the River Canard, thence down the said Branch
" & River Canard to the mouth thereof, & from thence down the
" River Detroit, to the place of beginning – Also an Island
" in the mouth of the said River Detroit, commonly known by the
" name Bois Blanc, with all & singular the appurtenances
" unto the said Tract of Land & Island belonging, or in any
" wise appertaining & the Reversion & Reversions, Remainder &
" Remainders, Rents & Services of the said Premises & all the
" Estate, Right, Title, Interest, Property, Claim or Demand whatever,
" of us the said Chiefs, or any one whatever of our said Nations, of,
" in & to the said Tract or Parcel of Land, or of, in & to every part
" & Parcel thereof & to hold the said Lands & premises, hereby given
" & granted, or mentioned or intended to be given & granted unto
" His said Majesty, George the Third, His Heirs & Successors for the
" only proper use, & behoof, of His said Majesty George the Third
" His Heirs & Successors forever—& we the said chiefs for ourselves,
" & the whole of our said nations, our & their Heirs, Executors,
" Administrators, do covenant, promise & grant to, & with his said
" Majesty George the Third, his heirs & successors by these presents,
" that His said Majesty, his heirs & successors, shall & lawfully may,
" from henceforth, & forever after peacably & Quietly, have, hold
" occupy, Possess & enjoy the said Tract or Parcel of Land, hereby
" given & granted, or mentioned, or intended to be given & granted
" with all & every of its appurtenances, free clear & discharged or well
" & sufficiently saved, kept harmless & indemnified of from & against
" all former & other gifts, grants, Bargains & sales, & of, from &
" against all former & other Titles, Troubles, charges or incumbrances
" whatever, had, done or suffered, or to be had done or suffered, by any
" of us the Chiefs, or by any one whatever, of the said nations, our &
" their Heirs, Executors or Administrators; and by these Presents do
" make this our Act, & Deed irrevocable under any pretense whatever

" of the said nations, & have put his said Majesty in full possession &
" Seigin by allowing houses to be built on the premises; In witness
" whereof we the said chiefs, for ourselves, & the said nations, have
" unto these Presents affixed the marks of our difft Tribes at Detroit,
" aforesaid, the fifteenth Day of May in the Twenty sixth year of the
" Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the Third, of Great Britain,
" France & Ireland King, Defender of the Faith &c &c &c & of our
" Lord one thousand seven hundred & eighty six.

(signed)

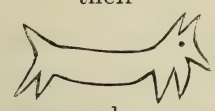
" signed in presence
" of Thomas Williams
" John Clark
" Daniel Field

SHABOQUE
NAYQUOSCAN

Chipawas

their

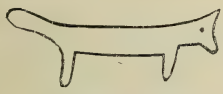
SQUASHAWA
NIQUELON



mark

Ottawas
Bear
Tribe

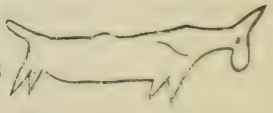
KINGEWANO



Wolfe Tribe

TICKCOMEGOSSON
MISQUECAWPOWEE

PONDIAC
ASSINOWEE



[Q 58–2, p 451]

LETTER FROM MR. PARK.

MIAMIES 17th May 1786.

Extracts of a Letter from Mr. Park

" Yesterday I arrived here in sixteen days from Post Vincennes, and after being detained there near three weeks by unforseen accidents and trouble occasioned by the ill intentions of the different nations of the Ouabache, and after a very serious affair that happened at La Riviere de Embarras five leagues below the Post, all this Spring Parties

hovered round the Post with design of killing the Americans as they could find them, and actually kill'd one before our arrival. However two days before Easter Sunday a Party of Piankishaus attacked a Batteau from the falls, kill'd the owner and wounded two of the men, this news came to this Post and a Party of thirty Americans sett off on Saturday evening in order to bring up the batteau and wounded men, early next morning an equal number sett off for the same place, came up with the others who were on their way back, reproached the first party why they did not attack the first Indians they met and caused them to return to attack some who were encamp'd at this River, they were the Indians of the Post, and had only left it two days after trading all they had with the Americans for whiskey and with which they were yet drunk. They attacked them and paid dear for it, they lost a captain and two men on the field and wounded nine or ten more, some since dead and has not been able to get them burried, the Indians lost not a man, only a young man had two balls through his thigh which he received while scalping those that were dead. You may very well imagine the terror that this caused to the French as well as the English that wanted to go and come, they could not go to the woods for fuel, but in a number armed, and the Americans immediately raised a Stockade, a sort of Fort to defend themselves.

After some time and no appearance of Indians to come and speak upon the matter Monsr Legrass at the instance of some, the principal French and English sent out a parole and flag, desiring the principal chiefs to come in and talk as the French and English had no hand in the affair, and that they shou'd hearken to their friends and endeavour to keep the roads open that the Traders may go and come about their affairs and bring them as usunl their necessaries. They came accordingly and was well pleased with the French and English, and forgave the fault of the Americans in appearance though not from their heart. They gave a parole also to the others above and desired all to clear and open which went with Dubois, & I, Marie Louise being with us. It was well received all along to the Onias where they seemed so discontented that we did not wait for an answer, nor did they give any Indians to conduct us as the others did. I had to slip away with I. Constant after being menaced with the Tomahawk by one of the vagabonds, to Tipiconeaux the most of the Traders are leaving being impossible to stay from their being constantly pillaged. The Indians here are in a wavering situation they are mostly all gone to war and when misfortunes arrives to Indians they seldom pay little difference between Americans and English as they make mighty complaints

against the English for having abandoned them after making them take up the ax.

I was told at the Onias for certain, and I have a good deal of reason to believe it that a belt was brought privately to them and the *Kus* to lift up the ax against the English from the Chepawas. It is a pity that the Rascals of the Wabache were not rather threatened by the Ouatwas and Chipawas than seemingly of the same opinion."

[Q 56-3, p 638]

J. CRAIGIE TO BRIG. GEN. HOPE.

"SIR QUEBEC, 3d September 1786.

"In obedience to your commands I beg leave to explain some circumstances relative to the supplies of provisions for the garisons of Detroit and Michillimackinac, remarked on Major Ancrum's letter to you of the 3rd August, which you have done me the honor to communicate to me.

The contract entered into for Flour last year with Messrs Caldwell and Elliott was made at a time when from a variety of circumstances, with which you are well acquainted, the forwarding the supplies had been so long protracted as to render it doubtful, if sufficient quantities sent from Lower Canada could arrive at the remote posts in the course of the season. The impolicy of the measure, as it favored a communication with the American States and was indeed a consumption of foreign produce in preference to that of the Colony, had not escaped the observation of Brigr General St Leger, then Commandg in Chief, but that consideration was over ruled by the exigency of the moment, which also induced him to authorize my allowing for that Flour the full price it would have cost to government with *all* the expences of Transport from Canada. It was never intended, however, that this mode of supply should hereafter be adopted; and accordingly early this summer, you thought proper to give me directions for its being discontinued.

With regard to the proposal now opened by Major Ancrum, of the posts of Detroit and Michilimackinac being supplied with Flour raised in the settlement of Detroit, the favorable reception a proposal of a similar nature from Niagara has met with from you, sufficiently points out to me your disposition to give the settlers in these parts, every encouragement that circumstances will permit, but various considera-

tions will in this case, render it extremely difficult to seek the advantage of the settlers, and to consult at the same time those objects which the nature of the service now require. These objects are, that the supplies should be certainly to be depended on, and that they should not be provided for such a length of time as might in any event prove the occasion of loss to the Government. I have reason to expect that provisions to 1st August 1787, are ere this lodged at Detroit, the supplies subsequent to that period therefore can only be in question; if these should now be engaged or agreed for, there will be a stock on hand beyond what may under present circumstances Justify, at the same time, if no agreement is made to insure the supply a reinforcement from Montreal must be sent off early in the Spring. To provide effectually against contingencies in both cases, It would be necessary that a sufficient stock should be deposited at Detroit, of which the commanding officer should on his part engage to take such quantities as might be wanted for the public service, and to grant certificates for the same, to be paid at Quebec, at a price to be agreed on, on the principles by which the agreement for Flour at Niagara is regulated, allowing the market price in Lower Canada, and all the expences of Transport, exclusive of frieght in the King's vessels. The price for Detroit would be nearly 17*s* 6*d* Halifax Currency pr. cwt of Flour, but if you should think proper to allow one half of the transport by the Troops without pay, and of the Freight in the King's Vessels to Detroit, the rate of payment might then be about 20*s* 3*d* Curry. p. cwt.

Such Sir are the outlines on which I conceive any agreement for Flour at Detroit ought to be made, at the same time I am perfectly sensible of the difficulty there will be in reducing these to practice, at all events it will be of the most essential consequence that precise information of whatever may be to be depended on in this business at Detroit, should be transmitted down by the winter express, so as to arrive here in March next."

True extract
J. CRAIGIE
D.

Brigr General Hope
Commander in Chief
&c. &c. &c.

Endorsed: No 2. Extract of a Letter from the Commissary General to Brigr. General Hope, dated at Quebec the 3rd September 1786.
In Lt Govr. Simcoes of the 19th December 1794.
In Lord Dorchester's No. 25 to Colonel Simcoe.

[Q 281–1, p 45]

INDIAN SPEECH.

St Joseph's 19th Septr 1786

The undermention'd chiefs assembled and requested I would inform You what they had to say.

The Corn Stalk said to his Father at Michilimakinac, that he would look up the Road and hinder the Americans to take possession of their Lands. His father told them that was right, & not to let any pass, except the English and French Traders.

Now the Americans are advancing, and assembling at the entrance of the Whole Rivers in great numbers; we received this intelligence by two Kukapoo messengers who arrived yesterday; they say the Americans are to come by three different Roads, first St Vincent, Ele River & Miames; its one Mr. Le Gras wrot to the Kukapoos and told them the Americans were coming according to their promise.

Their Father at Michilimakina told them, take care of your Traders and protect them.

This day I acquaint you, that they are advancing near to us, we expect you'll assist us, as likewise expect you will inform our Father at Michilimakina, of his former promise to us, we expect a favorable answer from you, which will assist to cover us from the menaces of our Enemy.

It is not the first time we stop'd them from coming that Road, as the same with all the Force we have if they come that way again.

We inform you of the contents of this Message and salute you.

Francis le Clam and Son } Interpreters

Who bring you this speech

I am Sir
Your very obedt. and
Huml. Servant
Michl Ague

Pottawatamy Chief
The Corn Stalk
Assamette
Missingone
Careaqui
Quilemen
Tlamen

To Mr McKee Esqr

Indorsed: Indian Speech, St. Josephs 19th Septr. 86.

[Q 56-3, p 642]
5

SIMON GIRTY TO CAPT. A. MC KEE.

UPPER SANDUSKY 11th Octr 1786.

SIR

I inform you that on the 8th Inst. there arrived an Express from the Shawanese Towns, to Upper Sandusky, that the American Army had arrived at the Shawanese Towns and I receiving this news made no delay, but immediately sent two runners to said Towns to know the certainty thereof and this day the Runners are arrived to me again, and give you an account that the American Army came into the Town at 12 o'clock in the day; and some time before the Army had arrived in Town, there came in a Deserter, who told the Indians that the Yankee Army was coming, but the Indians would not believe the Deserter, that they were coming when the Army appeared in sight. Shortly after the Indians of the Maycockey Town, on seeing them rose their Yankee colours to receive them, but their hoisting their colours was to no purpose, the Army immediately destroy'd the Town, then proceeded to Wakitumikie Town, and destroy'd that likewise; then proceeded from thence to Your House and destroy'd that, immediately from thence proceed'd to Blue Jackets and brought that immediately to the ground; and then they returned instantly back to Wakitumikis and there encamped and remain'd on the ground that night, and next day made a Retreat back again. Whether they have made a total Retreat or not I cannot tell as yet, but this is the word at present, in short I will be able to acquaint you farther.

The number of Indians that were kill'd I do not know, but in the Town where Capt Eliot lived there were 10 Indians found lying in the Town dead, and among them was the Chief of the Town was dead slain and an Indian named Shade and another one Messquaughenacke, the Indians there do say the Yankeys tyed him up and Burned him, and Mr. Coons Brother is likewise kill'd; the number which is kill'd I do not know yet, but they have taken the women & children prisoners along with them.

Capt Brant if he is alive I dare say that he has wrot the particulars to you before now, tomorrow I am determined to proceed to the Shawanese Towns myself to know the certainty thereof. And likewise I am informed that there is an Army to set off from the mouth of Muskingum for the Wyondot Towns, but I am not certain thereof, and the Runners that arrived this Day say that an Army is on the way to the White River, that a party went out to Espy them and two of them got kill'd. And,

there is Indians arrived from Fort Pitt and give an account that there is no more Indians at that place and they all have left it and come off. The Bearer of this letter I hope you will satisfy.

I remain &ca

SIMON GIRTY

Capt Alexr McKee

N. B. I have farther to inform you that there is one of the Ottawa Chiefs kill'd among the rest of the Indians.

The reason of this Express being convey'd by a woman is, that none of the Indians dare leave this. The Chiefs of each village orders them to remain in their Towns till further orders.

Indorsed: Copy of a Letter from Simon Girtie the Interpreter at Upper Sandusky with an account of the attack made by the Americans upon the Shawanese.

[Q 56-3, p 644] 1144452

LETTER FROM W. ANCRUM.

DETROIT 13th Octr 1786

SIR

I received the favour of your letter of the 22d and 23d Ulto by the Felicity, on the 9th Inst. I am sorry to find that no Pease, Oatmeal or Rice have arrived by the Dunmore or Felicity; and as it would be rather risking to send a Vessel later to Michilimakina than the present period, I have been under the necessity of sending off the *Felicity* to that Post, with Flower to supply the deficiency of the small species not arrived; which amounts at the rate allowed instead of them by the orders, to about 18,000 weight of Flower for that Post to 24th June ensuing.

I have just received some very disagreeable intelligence from the Indian Country, if it turns out to be true, and I am affraid there is but too much reason to believe it.

An old Chief of the Potawatamy nation, that went from hence a few days after Captn Brant and his Party along with the Chiefs and Deputies of the Hurons & others, to attend the Council, is just arrived here from one of the Huron villages, distant about 20 miles from the Shawanese towns, where the Grand Council of Indians was to be held; and where Captn Brant Capt David with the Deputies from the Six Nations, and many other Chiefs and Indians of different Nations had already arrived. This old Chief reports, that the day after he had

arrived at the above mentioned Huron Village, that two Shawanese Indians arrived there from the Shawanese Towns and brought intelligence, that a large body of Americans on horse back, had surprized the Indians assembled there, killed many of them, taken away Prisoners, and dispersed the rest, and destroy'd the Towns. That soon after a second and a third account was brought with the same intelligence. That the Chiefs at the Huron Village, that same evening sent off two of their young men on horse back towards the Shawanese Towns, to see further into the truth of the Report, that they returned the next morning, and confirmed the account given by the two Shawanese, and that they themselves had seen several of the dead bodies of the Six Nation Indians & others, and that the Indians were dispers'd and the villages destroyed.

The old Chief says, that he himself saw while he remained at the Huron Village, many women & children & some men flying almost naked past the village. And that the Chiefs told him, as the Council Fire was now disturbed, and he a very old man that he had better make the best of his way to Detroit with the news: and says, he has only been five days on the Road from that village, having travel'd night and day.

This old man also reports, that he was informed that this party of Americans on horse-back was only an advanced party to a large body on foot; and also that another body was advancing by the Wabache towards the Miamies.

I immediately dispatched a trusty party with an Indian towards that Country to learn the particulars of what has happen'd, for something disagreeable certainly has.

I forgot to mention to you, that I had some days ago received a copy of a message from the Rebel Col. Butler to the Shawanese (a copy of which I enclose) the answer of the Chiefs then assembled was; that they requested they would not at present send out the Surveyors; but to detain them some time longer, 'till they could have an opportunity of Deliberating among themselves, at their Council, when they would send them a final answer respecting that business.

From these circumstances, whatever body of men may have come against the Indian Towns, I do not believe they have come from Fort Pit, or by the authority of Congress, but from the Falls of the Ohio & Kentucke &c. And a message from the St Joseph Indians received two or three days ago seems to confirm this opinion; and also to correspond with some part of the intelligence brought in by the old *Poutawatamy* Chief, a copy of this message I also send.

I am very anxious to know further particulars concerning the intelligence brought in and if possible to learn the destination or further intentions of this body of men; and I shall detain the Vessel till I do; for I hourly expect more news from that qnarter.

15th Octr

A letter is just arrived from Simon Girty the Interpreter from Upper Sandusky, to Capt McKee, a copy of which I here inclose; and by which you will see that the intelligence brought in by the old Poutawatamy Chief was not without foundation.

This Simon Girty is one of the persons I appointed to attend the Council of the Indians, that we might be informed of every transaction that might pass there. He was sent to lower Sandusky, and was on his way from thence with the Chief and Deputies from that Village to the Shawanese Towns, when he received the intelligence contain'd in his letter at upper Sandusky.

He is a faithful trusty fellow, and ever has been a staunch friend to Government, I have known him at least Twenty years, and am sure that any intelligence he sends may be depended on.

I shall still detain the Vessel 'till I can have further news.

Octr 20th

The Express I sent into the Indian Country on the first intelligence on the 13th returned last night and brings a confirmation of the Shawanese Towns being destroyed by the Americans and several Indians kill'd.

The messenger went on towards the Shawanese Towns, 'till he met several of the Chiefs and Indians who had been on the Spot, and gave him the following particulars.

That the Americans on horse-back (to the amount of 1800) under the command of a Colonel Loger from *Kentucké* had surprised the first Shawanese Town they came to, and kill'd several Indians, and had taken several Prisoners. That Captn. Brant, Captn David and almost all the chiefs & Warriors were out hunting, That many of the Indians escaping from the first Town gave the alarm to the next called *Wakatumekis* and sending away their women & children they made some stand against the Americans, and a few were kill'd on both sides: but the Indians were obliged to give way being overpower'd by numbers: about ten Indians were kill'd at this and the other town. The alarm now being general, the Indians had time to fly from the other Towns

before the Americans arrived. But they laid in ashes the four Towns, destroyed all their Corn, and other produce and every thing else they had; and then retreated along the Banks of the Great Miamies on their way to Kentucke.

The Indians assembled as many men as they could and hung on their Rear, and kill'd several, and would have killd several more, had it not been for their women & children in possession of the Enemy, to the number of thirty one.

They must exagerate the number of the Americans, tho' the settlement of Kentucke is very populous.

The Indians have also received intelligence of another Army advancing by the Wabash, under the command of Colonel Clark, and is said to be 1800 men from the Falls of the Ohio, and was coming towards the Miamis Towns. This intelligence I have received from different quarters, but the numbers I cannot believe.

Runners with Belts are continually passing backwards and forwards between the Shawanese, Miamis, and the Wabash Indians &ca and I hope they will be prepared to give them a better reception than they did at the other Towns. But if the reports are true the Americans intend a divertion in another quarter. For the Indians have received information that another Army of 800 men from Fort Pitt & Muskingum is coming against Upper Sandusky and they are preparing to defend themselves there also. Two Mingoes have arrived from Fort Pit at the Shawanese Towns quite naked and give an account that the Americans had murder'd all the Indians that were at that place, which were chiefly delawares the only Indians supposed to be attached to their Interest. And also *Cayashonta* the old Chief of the Senecas. The two Mingoes with difficulty escaped.

From all these Reports of Armies from different quarters; is rather alarming to this Post; if their numbers are to be credited.

Tho I shall be upon my guard, I do not believe they have any intentions at present upon this Post; but that these incursions into the Indian Country is only to revenge themselves upon the Indians, for the Depredations & cruelties they have committed on their Frontiers during the whole Summer.

It is certainly too late for them to attack this Post this Fall besides they would have all the Indians on their Rear.

However I have many persons looking out in the Indian Country, and expect always to have some little notice of their intentions.

As I do not expect to receive any further news from the Indian Country, for two or three days and as I hourly expect the arrival of a Vessel from Michilimakina, I send off the Dunmore with the news I have received.

I have enclosed the different Returns of this Post

And have the Honour to be
with great Esteem
Sir
Your most obedient
and most Humbl. Servant
W. Ancrum

[Q 56-3, p 647]

LORD DORCHESTER TO SIR JOHN JOHNSON.

Quebec 27th Novemr. 1786.

Sir

Should Deputies bé sent from the Indians of the upper Country, I wish you to prevent their coming down to Quebec, as unnecessary, but I would not have them prevented so as to offend, nor leave on their minds any discontent. If they require assistance in their Wars, you will take proper means to make them clearly understand, that this country is a small part of the King's Dominions, that with us in Canada no power is lodged to begin a war, nor ought we to have such a power, which might involve half the globe with all the Seas in Blood & destruction, that at present the King is at peace with the whole world and desires so to remain, besides according to our manners that peace cannot be broken, without injury and wrong received and redress refused; but tho' we have no power to begin a war the Indians have our friendship and good wishes and if we could be usefull in procuring them a solid peace with the thirteen states, our best endeavours should be employ'd for that good purpose.

After reconsiling them to this condition of things here, from which I can never depart, you will mildly reproach them for the Injuries and violence offered to our Traders by their people, and represent to them the great want of understanding as well as injustice in thus ill treating inoffensive men who peaceably go among them, only to supply their wants in offering violence to the Children of a father from whom they have received so many proofs of benevolence and friendship, who offers

them no wrong, but when in his power punishes such of his subjects as transgress the Laws of Peace with the Indians, who asks not their Lands but is rather disposed to give, where he has to give, or even to buy in order to afford those a place of refuge who are in distress.

You will be pleased to have these Discourses accompanied with every expression of kindness, their language & manners will permit, while at the same time, whatever might induce over sanguine dispositions to suppose promises never intended, be carefully avoided, lest by want of waryness we incur the censure of a want of sincerity in our dealing with them.

Actions will best express our good intentions, You will therefore send them away warmly cloathed and bountifully supplied for their return.

DORCHESTER.

Indorsed copy:

A Letter from Lord Dorchester to Sir John Johnson, containing the answer to be given the Indians respecting their Disputes with the Americans & ca.

27th Novr. 1786.

[Q 56–3, p 656]

EXTRACT FROM AN ORDINANCE.

Extract from an Ordinance for promoting the Inland Navigation in the 23rd year of His Majesty's Reign.

Chap 3d Clause 14th

QUEBEC April 30th 1788

"Provided nevertheless that nothing herein enacted, shall be construed to prevent His Excellency the Governor, or the Commander in Chief of this Province for the time being, upon any great and urgent occasion, when he may think such order necessary and for the security of the Province, to prohibit for any given time, by an order under his hand and seal, all such vessels and craft from navigating the lakes, or to prevent the said Governor or Commander in Chief from making any other temporary regulations regarding these vessels and craft under similar circumstances, by an order under his hand and seal, that He shall Judge adviseable or expedient for the like purpose."

J. G. S.

Endorsed: In Lt. Governor Simcoe's No 17 to the Duke of Portland of the 23rd Jany 1795.

[Q 281-1, p 258]

ABSTRACT OF TREATY AT FORT HARMAR.

Abstract of a Treaty concluded at Fort Harmer 9th January 1789, between the United States of America, & the Wyondot, Delaware, Ottawa, Chippewa Puttawatima & Six Nations of Indians.

The object of this Treaty is "to remove all causes of controversy, regulate trade, & settle boundaries." All the articles agreed to at the treaty held at Fort Macintosh 21st January 1785 are confirmed: all prisoners to be delivered up, & two Hostages of the Wyondots nation to be left at Fort Harmer as a security for the performance of this article.

II. The boundary line then fixed is renewed & begins—at the mouth of the Cayahoga river on Lake Erie, runs up it to the portage between that & the Tuscarawa branch of the Muskingum, down that Branch to the Forks at the crossing place above Fort Lawrence, thence westerly to the Portage on that branch of the big Miamis which runs into the Ohio (at the mouth of which branch the Fort stood which was taken by the French in 1752) then along the said portage to the Great Miamis river—down that to Lake Erie, & thence along the shore of it again to Cayahoga—All lands not included within these boundaries the Indians cede for ever to the United States of America—in consideration of the presents they received at Fort Macintosh—& a further sum of six thousand dollars worth of goods then actually delivered them; and the above nations bind and oblige themselves not to sell or alienate any of the lands they have thus retained for their hunting grounds to any person or sovereign except the United States. It is understood and agreed that the Indians, so long as they demean themselves peaceably, are to hunt on the lands they have ceded to the Americans.

5. If any murder or robbery is committed the Indian is to be delivered up & dealt with according to law. the subjects of the United States are to be punished for every offence committed against an Indian in the same manner as if against a fellow citizen.

6. The Indians engage not to steal horses on the frontiers, & to protect *licensed* traders who may come among them.

8. It is mutually agreed to defend each other & to give notice of any hostile preparations that may be made by any third person.

Xth The reservations made at Fort Macintosh by the Americans are here renewed for the establishment of trading posts namely six miles square at the mouth of the Miamis River—six miles square on the portage on the branch of the Miamis which runs into the Ohio—six miles

on Sandusky lake where the old Fort stood & two miles square on each side the lower rapids on Sandusky river.

XII. Michilimakinac & twelve miles square they in like manner retain.

XIII. These nations acknowledge themselves to be under the sole protection of the United States & no other power whatever.

Memorandum.

The Indians do by no means consider this treaty as binding on them as a body as many of the principal chiefs were not only absent at this *Council-fire*, but absolutely declare they never will consent to such accession.

Onqushaw—the successor of Pontiach—was much displeased at the rashness & folly of the young men who were seduced to sign it. The Hurons were the most forward to sign it, particularly Duyantale & his few confederates—this nation is inconsiderable in number & influence & are seldom consulted on the general political affairs of the nations.

Indorsed: Abstract of a Treaty concluded between the Indians & Americans at Fort Harmer.
9th Jany. 1789.

[Q 56–3, p 748]

DISTANCE FROM QUEBEC TO THE GRAND PORTAGE.

Quebec to Montreal 60 leagues	180	miles
Montreal to Carleton Island 60	180	
Thence to Niagara being the length of Lake Ontario 50	150	
From Niagara to the Landing 3		
From do to Fort Schlosser 3		
From Schlosser to Fort Erie 312 (6)	36	
From Erie to Detroit being the East & West extremity of Lake Erie with about 20 miles of the Detroit River, 80	240	
Total from Quebec to Detroit	786	English miles
From Detroit to Michilimakinac	310	
Thence to the Portage	450	
Total	1,546	

Indorsed—Distance from Quebec to the Grand Portage.
Recd from Mat Lymburner June 25, 1789.

[Q 56–3, p 876]

CATALOGUE OF THE MAPS, PLANS, SURVEYS, &C, IN THE SURVEYOR GENERAL'S OFFICE AT QUEBEC AND THE OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING ENGINEER RELATING TO DETROIT AND NEIGHBORHOOD.

J.

Large.	Medm.	Small.	Lakes Erie, St. Clair &c. &c. and Upper Country.	
	1	----	Actual Survey of the South side of Lake Erie by Captain Montresor 1764. Scale to one inch about 3½ miles.	
		3	Plan of Fort Erie	45 Toises
		4	Sketch of the Southeast side of Lake Erie from the Falls of Niagara to Presqu' Isle	8 miles
		5	Sketch and surroundings of Presqu' Isle from Capt. Jos. Andrews	1 mile
	6	----	General Braddock's Road from Fort Cumberland to Fort Pitt with the Communication between Fort Pitt and Presqu' Isle	5 miles
	7	7	Plan of Fort Pitt	200 feet
		8	Rough sketch of the Communication between Fort Pitt and Sandusky Lake.	
		9	Sketch of Sandusky Lake on the South side of Lake Erie	3 miles
	10	----	Sketch of the same by Capt Grant	2 miles
	11	----	Sketch of the Miamis Bay at the west end of Lake Erie by Capt Burnet	1 mile
	12	----	Sketch of the River Miamis by Lieut. Duvernet	2 miles
	13	----	Sketch of the River Osabache by the same 1778	2 leagues
		14	Sketch of part of Lake Erie from Miamis Bay to the River Detroit	2 miles
	15	----	Actual survey of the Narrows between Lake Erie and Lake St. Clair by Lieut. Brehme	600 yards
		16	Plan of the old Fort at Detroit by Lieut Duvernet. Scale to 1 inch 200 feet.	
	17	----	Plan and section of the new Fort at Detroit begun Novr 1778 by the same—200 feet.	
	18	----	Brovillon of Do.	
	19	----	Survey of Hog Island in the River Detroit 1780 by the same	250 yards
	20	----	Sketch of the Island of Michilimakinac at the Northwest end of Lake Huron.	
		21	Plan of the Fort Michilimakinac on the South main	10 Toises
		22	Brovillon of Do with remarks.	
		23	Plan and section of a Fort proposed for the Island of Michilimakinac &cc April 1780	50 feet
		24	Plan of the Interior Line of the Parapet to Do being 1,546 feet in circuit	50 feet
		25	Plan and Section of a Fort proposed for the Island of Michilimakinac being Second Project, the interior 1,089 feet in circuit.	
		26	Ditto a third project 951 feet ditto.	
		27	Section to above Plans	10 feet
		28	Plan of a Block House proposed for the new Fort at Michilimakinac Island	4 feet

Large.	Medm.	Small.	Lakes Erie, St. Clair, &c. &c. and Upper Country.	
		29	Plan of Do with alterations	4 feet
		30	Section of the same	4 feet
		31	Rough sketch of the wharf of Michilimakinac.	
		32	Fair copy of do.	
	34	----	Plan of Fort Michilimakinac shewing its present state with a project for securing it against a surprise before the winter sets in by Lt. Hockings Sept. 20th 1782. Scale to one inch 40 feet.	
	35	----	Sections of the same	8 feet
		36	Plan of the powder magazine unfinished at Michilimakinac	5 feet
		36	Plan of the officers Barracks at Do	10 feet
37	----	----	Sketch of the Ottawa River, Lake Nipissing and Frenchman's River shewing the communication between the Lake of Two Mountains and Lake Huron by Lt. Hockings	6 miles
		38	Sketch of the Rivers Genanencoin & Rideau between the River St. Lawrence and the Ottawa with some description of the Land on these Rivers also the Lands between Carillon and the Chandiere on the Ottawa.	
	39	----	Sketch of Lake Huron 1788 Capt. Mann, 12 geographical miles.	
	40	----	Plan of Fort Lernoult at Detroit.	
	41	----	Plan of Kentucki	10 miles
	42	----	Survey of the South Shore of Lake Erie from Fort Erie to the entrance of Detroit River 1789 by Patrick McNiff	2 miles

[Q 49–150]

JOURNAL OF LAND COMMITTEE.*

"Journal of the Proceedings of the Land Committee upon His "Excellency the Right Honorable Lord Dorchester's order of refer-

* The following subjects are portions of this Journal, which have heretofore been published in these Collections and are here omitted.

Proclamation setting off the District of Hesse, July 24, 1788. [Published in Vol. 11, page 620.]

Appointments by His Excellency the Governor, for District of Hesse, Quebec 24th July, 1788. [Published in Vol. 11, page 621.]

Copy of Minutes of the Council upon State business, from 23rd October, 1788, to 31st Dececmber following. [Published in Vol. 12, page 310.]

Twentieth report of the Land Committee, Quebec 13th Oct. 1788. [Published in Vol. 11, page 626.]

Minutes of the proceedings of the Land Committee, Quebec 24th Oct., 1788. [Published in Vol. 11, page 627.]

Reports of the private committee and of the committee of the whole council concerning the administration of Justice in the District of Hesse. Nov. 14, 1788. [Published in Vol. 11, page 655.]

Report of same, January 13, 1789. [Published in Vol. 12, page 2.]

Minutes of the Land Board, District of Hesse, 7th Dec. 1789. [Published in Vol. 12, page 17.]

Extract from Minutes of Land Board, 22nd May, 1790. [Published in Vol. 12, page 27.]

Letter from Col. McKee to the Land Board, dated Detroit 23d May, 1790. [Published in Vol. 12, page 28.]

" ence of the 20th October 1790 of certain papers transmitted to the " office of the Governor's Secretary by the Land Board of Hesse " relative to impediments that have kept back the Settlement of the " Lands on the East Side of the Streight of Detroit."

" Friday 22d October 1790.

" Present

" Mr Finlay in the Chair

" Mr. Collins

" Mr. Grant

" Read Mr Secretary Motz's Letter to the Chairman, in the words " following.

" Sir

" The Papers herewith sent relative to the Transactions in the Land " Granting Department in Hesse, are referred by His Excellency the " Governor, to the consideration of the Land Committee, who are to " make full investigation into the causes of the difficulties and " impediments, which appear to have hitherto obstructed the Progress " of Settlement in that important Frontier, and to report the same " with due Particularity, with their opinion, on consulting with the " Surveyor General's office, of the best means of removing them, and " giving effect to the several instructions issued from time to time " respecting the settlement of the Waste Lands of the Crown, in that " District.

" It having been suggested that the Reservations in the late Indian " Cession in favour of the Hurons, may be very incommodious to the " County Town of Hesse, on that side of the Streight, and to the " Indians themselves, His Lordship, with a view of serving both them " and the common Interest, authorises the Land Committee to corre- " spond with the Land Board of Hesse, as well as with Sir John John- " son, and any other persons, from whom they may hope for full " Information concerning the object and intended use of these reserva- " tions, as well as the practicability of such means, as may be " suggested for satisfying the Huron Indians in any other Part of the " District & upon what terms."

"And the Committee are in their Report to subjoin the whole of their "Correspondence upon this subject, and make it known to all from whom "they may desire any Information. That their Communications will be "put upon the public files of that Branch of the Council Office, which "relates to the grant of the Waste Lands of the Crown.

" I am &ca

"The Papers mentioned in the Schedule were laid upon the table—

"Schedule of the Inclosures.

"1. Letter from His Excellency Lord Dorchester to the Command-"ing Officer at Detroit dated the 15th May 1789.

"2. Extract from the Minutes of the Land Board of Hesse of the "14th August 1789.

"3. Letter from the Land Board of Hesse to His Excellency Lord "Dorchester dated 28th August 1789, with three Inclosures marked A. "B. C.

"4. Instructions to the Land Board of Hesse dated 2d Sept. 1789.

"5. Letter by order of His Excellency Lord Dorchester to the Land "Board of Hesse dated 5th October 1789.

"6. Letter from the Land Board of Hesse to His excellency Lord "Dorchester dated 17th October 1789.

"7. Letter by command of His Excellency Lord Dorchester to the "Land Board of Hesse, dated 21st January 1790.

"8. Report from the Land Board of Hesse dated 1st June 1890 "inclosing their Minutes to that Day—

"9. Continuation of the Minutes of the Land Board of Hesse to the "12th August 1790.

"10. Minutes of a Council held with the Indians near Detroit dated "the 19th May 1790.

"11. Original deed of Cession of Indian Territory in the District of "Hesse, dated 19th May 1790, with a Plan of the Tract indorsed thereon.

"12. Letter from the Indian agent at Detroit, dated 25th May 1790.

"13. Letter from Mr. William Robertson, one of the members of the "Land Board of Hesse dated the 7th June 1790.

"14. Letter from the Acting Surveyor of the District to Mr. Deputy "Surveyor General, dated 21st Sept. 1790, with 7 Inclosures numbered "1 a 7."

"Read a note from Mr. Secretary Motz to the Chairman in the words "following

"SIR,

"Mr. Robertson, one of the Members of the Land Board of Hesse "being now in Town on his way to England, the Committee will have "an opportunity of communing with him on the Subject of the refer-"ence now sent respecting that District.

"Mr. Robertson at the desire of the Chairman attended the Committee, "& Mr. Motz's letter of the 20th Inst together with the Minutes of the "Land Board of Hesse having been read in his presence, he was requested "to inform the Board what he knows relative to a certain portion of

"Land of Seven Miles Square mentioned in the Deed of Cession of a "large Tract lately made at Detroit to the Crown by the Indians of the "Pottawatomie Nation, the Chippawa Nation, & the Ottawa Nation on "the 19th of May last, which Portion of Seven Miles Square is reserved "as necessary for the comfort of those Nations, & other Indians.

"Mr. Robertson replied

Viva voce Information from Mr. Robertson a member of the Land Board of Hesse relative to the Reserve at the River Canard.

" That he considers the Portion supposed to be reserved " for the use of the Indians lying within the bounds of the " Tract ceded by the above mentioned deed of the 19th of " May last, to have been vested in the Crown by a former " Deed granted the 15th May 1786.* He further says, he by " no means conceives, the reserve mentioned, to be necessary " for the comfort of the Indians *now*, more than it was " at the time it was ceded in May 1786, when the Indians themselves " whose property it then was, voluntarily pressed it upon the Indian " Agent Mr *McKee*, as appears by his memorial transmitted to the " Land Board of Hesse, & of which he accepted a grant in the name " & for behalf of the Crown."

" Mr Robertson observes, that if the Tract, (already the Crown's) " were to be given back to the Indians, it would greatly impede the " Settlement of that important Frontier by taking away the means " of establishing a Fort and garrison at the fittest place as pointed " out by the Chief Engineer of the province, at the very spot which " commands the Water Communication, being as it were the Key " to the Upper Countries. Were it to be ceded, the chain of Set- " tlement would be broken where it ought obviously to be the " strongest."

" Mr Robertson further adds, That obstructions to the Settlements " there have been thrown in the way, and objections made to the " proceedings of the Land Office Board of Hesse by interested Persons " claiming right to extensive Tracts under Grants from the Natives, " which they wish to retain & so make Traffic of the Waste Lands of " the Crown, which cannot be held by individuals under any Title " Originating by Grant from the Indians.

" Mr Robertson referred to the Minutes of the Land Board of " Hesse and to the Papers which were transmitted to the office of the " Secretary, for the Statement of the Transaction, relative to the Deed " of Cession of the Tract in Question.

" Mr Robertson withdrew

For deed granted May 15, 1786, see page 27.

" WEEKLY MEETING OF THE LAND COMMITTEE.

" Friday 26 November 1790

" Present

" Mr. Finlay in the Chair

" Mr. Collins

" Mr. Grant

" Mr. De Lanaudiere

" The Chairman observed to the Committee, that as their Time had " been wholly taken up in attending public business previous to the " Departure of the last Ships for England, which had long pre- " vented them from attending to the Land Business, he proposed to " get quit of the Sundry Petitions that had been sent in, since the " 22d October, the Day on which they entered upon the Considera- " tion of the Transactions of the Land Board of Hesse before they " should resume that business, which was agreed to.

" Read again Mr Secretary Motz's Letter addressed to the Chairman " of this Committee, dated the 20th October, together with all the " Papers therein mentioned referred to the consideration of the Com- " mittee vizt.

" Paper No 1, 2, 3—with its inclosures 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13 " & 14, The Day being far spent in reading those papers, the Com- " mittee deferred the further consideration of them, until Friday next " at Ten o'clock.

[Q 58-2, p 311]

" WEEKLY MEETING OF THE LAND COMMITTEE.

" Friday 3d December 1790.

" Present

" Members, as at the last Meeting.

" Resumed the Consideration of the business from the Land office " Board of Hesse, & began with the Papers noted in the Schedule " annexed to Mr. Motz's Letter or Order of reference of 22d October, " conformable to the resolve at last meeting.

" Read a Letter from His Excellency Lord Dorchester No 1. to Major " Close dated Quebec 15th May 1789, with order to lay out a Town-
" Paper No 1. " ship opposite to the Isle Bois Blanc, District of Hesse to
" Order to lay " be called George Town, with as little delay as may be,
" out a Town-
" ship opposite " according to the Plan sent; further Ordering, that Claims
" the I. Bois
" Blanc " on the part of Indians to any Lands in those Parts to be " satisfied previous to the disposal of any part of the Township, of which

"Claims Mr. McKee, Deputy Superintendant of Indian affairs to be "duly notified, in case Sir John Johnson's Orders and Instructions to "him may have miscarried.

"Read Paper No 2. Extracts from the Minutes of the Land Board "of Hesse 14th August 1789, where it appears that the Land pointed "out for the Township of George Town, was not then yet "bought from the Indians as Mr. McKee informed the Board "& that he had not received any directions from Sir John "Johnson relative thereto, but he gave the Board to under- "stand that the Indians had disposed of that land to certain "officers and others (who had served with them during the "late War) by a written deed dated the 7th June 1784.

"No 2 "The Indians "had disposed "of the Lands "intended for "the Site of "George Town "opposite to "I. of Bois "Blanc

"The Board of Hesse forebore to give orders to the Deputy Surveyor "of the District to lay out George Town as they found (by a Letter "from His Excellency Sir Frederick Haldimand to Lieut "Governor Hay of Detroit dated 14th August 1784*) it was "enjoined that all due encouragement should be given to "Captains Caldwell & Elliot to settle on that Land, meaning "the Land now pointed out for the Site of George Town.

"Encour- "agemt. "given in Augt "1784 to settle "on that Land

"In consequence of that Letter it appears that Lieut. Governor Hay "did order Mr. Fry to lay out four Lots of six acres in front each, for "Captains Bird, McKee Caldwell & Elliot, but that those "gentlemen at that time actually occupied Forty acres (Ten "each) in front, the whole space opposite to the Isle Bois "Blanc, by special Promise from the Indians, in the posses- "sion of which they were secured so lately as 1787, by Major "Mathews, then acting under written Instructions from Lord "Dorchester as the Board of Hesse sets forth; so that they could not, "under such circumstances, press obedience to the Instruction tr.ns- "mitted for laying out George Town.

"Possession "given to "Capts Bird, "McKee, Cald- "well & Elliot "in 1784 & "confirmed in "1787.

"Read a Letter from the Land Board of Hesse to Lord Dorchester "dated 22d August 1789, stating, that until the arrival of Mr. McNiff "the Deputy Surveyor (which was but lately) they could not "proceed to Business. That their Progress was obstructed "in consequence of Information from Al. McKee Esqr. Deputy "Superintendant of Indian Affairs, *that none of the Lands "in Hesse had yet been purchased from the Indians for "the Crown*, altho they had been parcelled out in large "grants to Individuals by the Indians so as to leave none

"No 3. The "Crown had "no Lands in "the District "of Hesse "Individuals "Claim exten- "sive Tracts "there under "Indian Grant.

* Letter published in Vol. 20, page 246.

" unclaimed from *Long Point on Lake Erie*, all the way to Lake Huron.

" They therefore postponed the settlement of these Lands until " the right of soil should be purchased from the natives. The

The Settlement of the District postponed in 1789 until the soil should be purchased for the Crown from the Natives

" Board adds, that before they were aware of the Diffi- " culty started by Mr. McKee, they had, upon the Petitions " of Individuals (from the States as this Committee appre- " hend) made Promises of grants of Lots, on their return " with their Families; and that it might be in their Power " to keep Faith with those People, (whom they expect next " spring 1790 not doubting but that all Impediments would be removed " in the course of the Winter).

Directions to Mr McNiff the Deputy Surveyor to Survey some Townships that settlers expected might be furnished with Lots

" The Board proposed to direct Mr. McNiff to proceed " immediately to the survey of some Townships, & to num- " ber the Lots, that the Settlers coming in from the States " (where the printed Instructions for the conduct of the " Land Office Department are in general circulation) might " be immediately settled.

" Read a paper marked A, (one of three Inclosures in

The Settlement of the Lands opposite to the Island of Bois Blanc encouraged

" the Letter above mentioned) being the copy of a Letter " from Governor Sir Frederick Haldimand dated 14th August " 1784, to Mr. Hay Lieutenant Governor of Detroit stating " that Capt Caldwell of Colo. Butler's late Corps (one of the " officers to whom the Hurons and other Indian Chiefs had " given a Tract of land of seven Miles Square at the Mouth of the River " Detroit for the Purpose of Settling amongst them) had applied to him " for his sanction to settle thereon; That tho' not in his power to gratify " the wishes of the Persons concerned and of the Indians on that head, " by confirming their gift immediately, yet, he considered the intended " Settlement might prove of infinite utility to the strength and interest " of the Province and therefore wished to give it every encouragement " in his power. That he had agreed that His Majesty's Loyal Subjects " dismissed from the Service, should carry on their improvements, until the

Directions given to have the Land made over to the King by the Indians for the Purpose of granting it according to His Majesty's Instructions.

" land could be laid out, *and granted according to the King's* " *instructions.* Lieutenant Governor Hay was directed to give " orders for that purpose, and that Mr. McKee should be " directed to get the Indians to make over to the King the " Land in Question for the purpose they wished;—But it was " to be made known at the same time, *that two thousand* " *yards from the center would be reserved on all sides for* " *the purpose of establishing* a Post which from Captain

" Caldwell's Information would be necessary at the entrance of the " River.

" Three o'clock adjourned.

[Q 58–2, p 317]

" Friday 10th December 1790

" Present

" Mr. Finlay in the Chair

" Mr. Collins

" Mr. Grant

" Read a Paper marked B. (one of 3 Inclosures in No 3) " endorsed " Letter from Lieutenant Governor Hay to the " Deputy Surveyor Mr Fry," being an Order to measure off " certain Lotts for the Gentlemen designed by the Com- " mander in Chief to settle on the Lands near the mouth " of Detroit River, given by the Indians by the King for " that purpose, that they may make improvements to begin at the " lower end of Captain Caldwell's field, measuring due South all the way " to Lake Erie.

Lot opposite to Isle of Bois Blanc to be measured off to the grantees of the Indians

" Read paper marked C (another of the inclosures in No. 3 " indorsed Copy of Instructions from the Right Honble " Lord Dorchester to Major Mathews 28th August 1788 " " directing that every possible encouragement be held out " for settling on the east side of the River Detroit, & to " discourage (but with prudence and address), those who " settle near us on the other side—No Settlers on any accot. " to place themselves on Land belonging to the Indians, " before it shall have been purchased from them for the " Crown's use: directing further, to report on a number of claims " respecting Lands & Lots in the Settlement of Detroit, upon which " Houses are Built, & State the particulars of each, with an opinion " thereon, distinguishing those within our Line from those without— " Also, To Report the Progress made by some Loyalists in their Settle- " ment on a Spot originally proposed for this class of men on the East " side of Detroit River, & to state his Ideas fully, of what may be done " for its further encouragement, as well as for establishing a Military " Post in that Quarter.

Further directions in 17— given to encourage the Settlement on the E side of the Streight of Detroit.

No Land to be settled that is claimed by Indians

"No 4 "The Land "Board of "Hesse "instructed "in Septemr. "1789 to "consider a "Tract of "Land on "Lake Erie "& towards "Lake Huron "to be sur- "veyed & "parcelled out "to Loyalists "& others, no "part of it to "be granted "to indi- "viduals until "ceded to the "crown. "Mr. Mc. Kee "to obtain "a cession of "that tract "from the "Indians to "the crown.

"Read a Letter (marked No. 4) from Lord Dorchester to "the Land Office Board of Hesse 2d Sept. 1789, Instructing "the Board to consider a Tract of Land West of Niagara "on the Banks of Lake Erie and towards Lake Huron, to "be surveyed and parcelled out for the accommodation of "Loyalists and others, taking care to comprehend within that "Tract, all Lands possessed or claimed by individuals under "pretence of private purchases, or of grants from Indians, "on the side opposite to the Post of Detroit, be compre- "hended within the Tract to be surveyed; no part of which "is to be granted to individuals until ceded to the Crown "by the Indians. Mr. McKee the officer of the Indian "Department to be called, to know the Temper and dispo- "sition of the Indians, & ascertain the extent of Country to "be treated for consistent with their comfort; & Mr. McKee "will then take the necessary steps to obtain from the "Indians their clear and compleat cession to the Crown.

"A County "Town to be "laid out oppo- "site to the I of "Bois Blanc & "Lots Granted

"Next, the Board is to chuse a proper Scite on the East "side of the streight of Detroit for a County Town, which, "from its preferable Situation is recommended by His Lord- "ship to be opposite to the Island of Bois Blanc, but lest "its unhealthiness, or other circumstances, may render that "situation not eligible, The Board will then consult the "Magistrates officers of Militia & others, as to a more proper Scite, & "fix it by a Majority of the Board so formed, & when so fixed, the "Surveyor will proceed to lay out the Township, when certificates "will be granted for Town & Farm Lots, according to the General "Instructions.

"Applications "may be "received from "the occu- "pants of "Settlements "in the Tract "to be ceded "Grants made "according to "the General "Instructions "as to all "other vacant "Lands of the

"Directing further, that as many Settlements have been "made in the Tract or extent of Country above ordered to "be Surveyed & laid out, under pretence of Right derived "from grants made by Indians, applications may be received "from the occupants for grants, stating the extent and value "of the Tracts and Improvements, and the grounds of their "Claims, and the Board are to give Certificates including the "Improvements & to proceed according to General Instruc- "tions, as to all other vacant Lands of the Crown.

"Crown "No 5 "Reference to "the Rules & "Regulations "of 5 Augt "1789

"Read No 5. Letter 5th October 1789, from Henry Motz "Esqr. to the Land Board of Hesse referring them to the "Instructions of 25th August & 2d September which, (as he "notes) could not have reached the Board when they sent "their Report the 28th August will serve to obviate the difficulties sug- "gested in their Report.

"No 6 "No location "certificates "can be "granted in "the Tract "between "Point Aux "Places "& Lake "Huron as the "whole is "occupied or "claimed "under Indn "grants in "Octr 1789

"Read No 6. A letter from the Land Board of Hesse to "Lord Dorchester 17th October 1789, owning Receipt of His "Lordship's Letter of 2d September, & stating the Impossi- "bility of Issuing Certificates to individuals, because the "whole Tract of Land from Pointe au Playe* in Lake Erie, "to Lake Huron (& that for some distance from the "water) is occupied, or claimed under Indian grants— "& setting forth, that until the validity of such claims can "be decided upon, the Settlement of the country cannot be "effected, in conformity to the directions in the Letter of "the 2d of September; Therefore praying, that the Board "may be vested with Power to enquire into and settle those "claims as they may occur, & to proceed on the guidance of their own "Judgment in cases where difficulties may start up, that have "evidently escaped Lord Dorchester's animadversion, or where delay "would be hurtful to the Progress of the Settlement of the Colony.

"No 7 "The Board of "Hesse has "power to "enquire into "& settle all "claims for "Lands under "Indian "Grants

"Read No 7. Mr. Secretary Motz's Letter to the Land "Board of Hesse dated 21st January 1790. His lordship "leaves it to the Board of Hesse to use the prudent exercise "of their authority in all cases where on account of the "remoteness of the Distance, unforeseen circumstances may "render it necessary. But His Lordship does not perceive "any equitable claims (from the information hitherto trans- "mitted) within any other purchases or cessions than in that cession "to officers & others of the Indian Department June 1784, consequently "the Board will find scope for their trust to operate in every other "part of the District. The Letter was accompanied with Mr. McKee's "memorial and Deed for the Tract at the River Canard ceded by the "Indians to the Crown on the 15th May 1786, for the consideration "and proceedings of the Board agreeable to the General Instructions.

*Point Pelé.

"No 8 "As soon as "the Land "Board of "Hesse are in "possession of "a survey "of the Tract "lately pur- "chased from "the Indians "they will "grant "location "certificates

"Read a Letter No 8 (1st June 1790) from the Land "Board of Hesse, consisting of Wm D. Powell Esqr. Wil- "liam Robertson Esqr. & Alex Grant Esqr, To Lord Dor- "chester informing His Lordship that they had ordered an "early Report of a Survey of the Front of a Tract purchased "from the Indians, and as soon as they shall be in posses- "sion of it, they will proceed to grant Locations, & further "praying His Lordship to obtain from the Indians, for the "welfare of the Loyalists and of the Settlement an unre- "served cession of the Tract about a mile in front & 120 "acres in depth of the Waste Land near the Church, leaving to them, "a building for Public Worship.

"The Land "Committee "find by the "minute of "the Land "Board of "Hesse that in "Aug't, 1789, "seeing by Mr. "McKee's "reports that "there was no "waste lands "at the "disposal of "the crown, "the whole "being claimed "under Indian "grants "they post- "poned all fur- "ther proceed- "ings until "those claims "could be "settled.

"This Committee learn from the Minute of the Land "Board of Hesse of the 14th August 1789 That the Land "intended for the Scite of George Town as mentioned in "Mr Motz's Letter 15th June, has not, as Mr McKee "informed the Board, been purchased from the Indians, and "that he had then no Instructions from Sir John Johnson "to that effect, but he gives information that the Indians "had divested themselves of the Land in Question in favour "of certain officers who had served with them during the "war, by deed of cession the 7th June 1784, and stating "that Sir Frederick Haldimand, (on the 14th August) had "enjoined Lieut Governor Hay to give all due encourage- "ment to Capt Caldwell & Elliot to settle on the Land now "pointed out for the Scite of *George Town* and that in "consequence thereof, Forty acres in Front being the whole "space fronting the Length of the Isle Bois Blanc (The "intended Scite of George Town) was granted by the "Indians to officers that had served with them during the "war, and the Possession of that Tract was confirmed in 1788 by "Major Mathews, by authority from Lord Dorchester and therefore "the Board defer any further progress until they shall be instructed "how to proceed supposing that it is not in contemplation to dis- "possess the present occupiers.

"The Board find no Waste Lands of the Crown within the late "Purchase, free from Indian claims or other claims so that they can- "not go on to give Locations in Terms of the general Instructions,

" until a Purchase is made from the Indians, and the claims of others " under Indian Grants are settled, in the Tract from Long Point in " Lake Erie to R. Chenail Ecarté in Lake Huron but nevertheless " they think that Mr McNiff should be ordered to make a Survey of " & lay out a Range of Townships from the center of Long Point mov- " ing on round the Lake towards the Detroit, or, at the extent of the " Land allotted by Major Close, moving down the Lake to Long Point.

" Notice given " to the Land " Board of " Hesse in May " 1790 that a " cession of a " Tract of " Land was " made by the " Indians " accordg to " the limits " specified in a " Resolve of " the Board of " Dec. 1789 but " with reserva- " tions

" By the Minute of the 21st May 1790, it appears the " Board were informed by Letter from Mr. McKee that a " cession of the Tract of Land west of Niagara on the " Banks of Lake Erie towards Lake Huron was completed " according to the Limits,—see page 14 of the Minutes of " the files, vizt from Catfish Creek to River Chenail Ecarté " —specified in a Resolve of the Board of 7th December " 1789, except the Land between the Huron Church & the " River au Jervais being 120 acres in depth, reserved for " the Hurons, together with a Tract, at the River Canard, " beginning at the Indian officers Land running up the " Streight to the French Settlement seven miles in depth.

" Per Minute 22d May Pages 24 & 25 the Board seeing the Reserves " take up the whole of the Space proposed for the Scite of George Town " resolve to enquire of Capt McKee the reason for admitting " those reserves, and to know the intended use thereof or " if it should be considered that these reasons ought not " to be imparted to the Board, that then he be directed to " communicate the same to Lord Dorchester.

" the reserves " interfere " with the " Scite of " George Town

" Further, that the Surveyor be enjoined to report a Survey of the " Front of the Tract lately ceded to the Crown, marking the " Boundaries of each Township from Long Point to Lake Huron.

" It would " have been " impossible " for Mr " Mc Kee to " have obtained " the extensive " Tract just " ceded with- " out he had " made the " reserves men- " tioned in the " Deed

" Page 27th of the Minute In a Letter of the 23d May to " the Board, Mr McKee informs them that he had found it to " be impracticable to obtain so extensive a Tract as has " been described without paying some attention to the claims " of the Indians, besides complying with the express orders " of the Governor vizt. *That all possible regard shall be* " *had to their ease and comfort which would have been* " *materially affected had not the reserves been made as they* " *were.*

"Minutes Page 28th States, that in the opinion of the Board, the "reserves cannot serve for the comfort of the Indians and that they "The Board of Hesse conceive that the reserves made can be of no utility to the Indians "cannot be of any utility to them; and in Pages 29, 30 & "31, The Board give reasons for that opinion; But the "President, Major Murray, objects to the entry in Lots, "and Mr Grant to a part of it, as he thinks all informa-"tion, or opinion relative to the Indian concerns, ought "to proceed from the Deputy Superintendant of Indian Affairs; and "Major Murray conceives, The Land Board of Hesse ought not to "Major Murray president of the Board thinks that by the Reserves the comfort of the Indians has been secured. "presume to advise the Governor or Subjects so intimately "connected with the Indian Department, and he sets forth, "that from the Report he has seen from that Department "the Governor's Instructions have been executed in the "most advantageous manner for the Crown, and that the "most effectual means have been adopted for securing *the "comfort and peace of mind of the Indians*, and the "undisturbed enjoyment of the Farms of the white Inhabitants, by the "Agent for Indians Affairs in the late Purchase.

"On this Information the Land Committee resolve, that the Chair-"man, by the first opportunity, request of Sir John Johnson in the "Resolve of the Land Committee to request Sir John Johnson to give his opinion touching the intended use of the reserves. "name of the committee, to favor them with his opinion "touching the object and Intended use of the reserva-"tions made in the last grant or cession of Lands by "the Indians near Detroit in May last, and in order to Shew "to Sir John how that request is founded, The Chairman "will at the same time transmit to him a Copy of Lord "Dorchester's order of Reference to this Committee of the "20th of October together with a copy of Mr. McKee's Let-"ter of 21st May to the Land Board of Hesse, and the "Committee resolved farther, That Sir John Johnson be "Sir J. Johnson to be requested to give his opinion of the means to satisfy the Indians by a grant of Lands elsewhere in lieu of the reserves made "entreated to give his opinion of the best means for satis-"fying the Hurons in any other part of the District, in lieu "of the reserves made in their behalf & on what terms, "with any other information Sir John may think proper to "communicate on the whole scope of the Reference.

"In the 6th Page of the minutes of the Land Board of "Hesse, It is stated that the Board after having waited 14

"days after the return of Mr. McNiff the Surveyer,* who informed "the Board that he had in obedience to a written order from the "Commandant at the Post (Major Murray) proceeded to the survey "required by the minute of the Board, but that be would not com- "municate to the Board his progress which by the general Instructions "must come to them through the office at Quebec. Upon which the "Board on the 2d of July gave Instructions to Mr. McNiff to report "a survey of the Front of the Tract lately ceded to the Crown,

"Mr. McNiff "instructed by "the Board of "Hesse to "Report a "Survey of the "Tract trom "Long Point "to the French "Settlement "opposite to "Bois Blanc

"beginning at Long Point on Lake Erie and continuing "it to the commencement of the whole French Settlements "opposite to Bois Blanc, to be guided in the course of "the survey by the X Article of the Rules & Regulations "for the Land Office Department of the 17th February "1789 and the 3d article of additional Rules and Regula- "tions of 25th August and also instructed him to report "a variety of Information required by Mr. Motz's Letter "of the 19th of January 1790 which can only be done thro' the medium "of the acting Surveyor. The Heads of the Information required was "delivered to Mr. McNiff & pressed upon him for his attention "thereto, to enable the Board to report upon his Information on the "Subject.

[Q 58-2, p 321]

"Friday 24th December 1790.

"No business was done this day by the Land Committee. Mr. Fin- "lay & Mr. Collins unable to attend.

"Friday 31st December 1790.

"Mr. Collins still confined to His House, & Mr. Finlay being yet "unable to go abroad, it was agreed that Mr. Grant should meet Mr. Fin- "lay the next day, to proceed on the examination of the Papers from "Hesse.

"Saturday 1st January 1791.

"Messieurs Finlay, Grant & De Lanaudiere proceeding to read the "Papers referred to the Land Committee the 20th October—They took "up the Minute of the said Land Office Board of Hesse Paper No 9 "beginning where the Committee had left off the 10th of December "Page 15 Minutes of the 16th July.

* From the survey directed by the Board.

" The Board in that day's Minute, declare their intention to make " enquiry of the Persons interested in the Rumours concerning distur- " bance given by Indians to certain Settlers in & about the New " Settlements who have (as has been said) been threatened by the " Indians, that the Board may be enabled to inform Sir John on his " return from Michilimakinac how that matter stands, that a remedy " may be applied to the disorders complained of.

" The Board went into a full explanation of their objections to the " Reserve made at River Canard—but the further consideration of that " Matter is referred to the next attendancce of Sir John.

" Minute of the 30th July.

" Mr. McNiff's " objections to " proceed on " the Survey " ordered by " the Board on " the 2d July. " If the cession " made by the " Indians to " the Officers " of the Indian " Department " extends " seven miles " back it will " encroach on " the Farms of " other " Settlers.

" The Deputy Surveyor Mr. McNiff, starts a difficulty in " proceeding on the Survey ordered by the Board the 2d " July—He says there is no Point fixed for the beginning or " for the ending the Survey and moreover, he does not know " the extent of the Grants made to, or claimed by the Indian " Officers opposite to the Island of Bois Blanc, but if they " extend seven miles back they will encroach upon the culti- " vated Farms of other Settlers who have had lots granted " to them by Government. Captain Elliott informs the Board " that the Deed to the Indian Officers extends Seven miles, " but he is of opinion that none of the claimants under that " Deed will wish to disturb any Settler placed by Government " within its extent.

[Q 58–2, p 330]

" Capt. Elliott " for the other " officers says " they do not " wish to " disturb other " settlers " placed there " by govern- " ment. " Order issued " by the Board " to Mr. " McNiff 30 " July 1790 to " begin his " survey " running N. " from the " Lake at the " Western " boundary of " Lot No 97

" The Board are of opinion (without deciding on the pre- " tensions of the Claimants under the Deed of 7th June 1784) " they may with Propriety direct the Deputy Surveyor to " begin to run his Lines North from the Lake at Western " Boundary of Lot No 97 in the occupation of John Corn- " wall, and an order of the Board was issued to Mr. McNiff " accordingly the 30th July 1790.

" By the minute of the 11th of August 1790, Sir John Johnson " present (see paper No 9 Page 19 & 20). The above order of 30th " July was amended.

" Minute of 13th August

" Major Smith President

" Some means to be adopted to prevent future disputes with the Pro- " prietors of Water Lots for their rear Concessions. See Petitions 35 " to 38, exclusive of Minute 9.

" Pages 30, 31 & 32 of the Land Board of Hesse, numbered 9 is a " Schedule of Petitions received by that Board, without noting the " quantity of acres applied for.

" No 10 " Paper No 10 referred Is the proceedings of a Council " held at Detroit the 19th May 1790, with sundry Indian " Nations upon the Cession of a Tract of Land extending " from Lake Erie to the Chenail Ecarté as far as its first " Southern Fork, thence by an East Line to the River La- " Franche, and along that River until it meets the line of " the Messassagai purchase, mention is made by Major Mur- " ray, *that such part of the Territory which the Ancestors* " *of the ceding Indians granted to the Hurons, as they have* " *found now requisite for the general good is reserved for* " *their occupation.*

" Council held " with the " Indians

" Cession of a " Tract of " Land 19 May " 1790 on Lake " Erie up to " the River " Chenail " Ecarté

" This reserve is explained by Egoucheonai, Chief of the Ottawas, " to be " from the Church on the East side of Detroit " River, to the River Jervais, as well as a piece of Land " commencing at the River Canard extending upwards to the " Line of the Inhabitants."

" Reserves " made for the " use of the " Hurons.

"Paper No 11 is the Plan of the Tract ceded to the Crown by " the Indians. No 12 Is copy of a Letter dated at Detroit the 25th " May 1790 from A. McKee to Sir John Johnson Bart. assign- " ing Reasons why the Reservations of certain Tracts of " Land on the East side of the River Detroit were made for the use " of the Hurons in the Territory ceded to the Crown by the Lake Indian " Nations the 19th May last vizt

" No 11 Plan " No 12

" *The orders of government for purchasing that Tract could not* " *have been carried into execution without these reservations,* " *and without them the Hurons would not have decided, and* " *the other Indians would not have acquiesced.*

" Reasons why " the Reserves " were made

"Mr. McNiff further states, that the Intention & express purpose of "the Deed of cession of the Tract in question made to the "Crown in 1784, was in Trust to him, to secure the Indians "from Encroachments.

"The Deed of cession made by the Indians to the Crown in 1784 was intended to be in trust for the use of the Indians to secure that Tract from the Encroachments of White Settlers

"Paper No 13 a Letter from Mr. Robertson Member of the Land "Board of Hesse to Mr Secretary Motz the 7th June 1790, "inclosing a letter which he wrote to Mr. Smith, Clerk of the "Board stating *that Mr. Smith had told him that he had "drawn a Deed of Cession for the Land to be purchased "of the Indians agreeable to the minute of the Land "Board of 7th December 1789, without any reservations, but "that the Deed had been altered, & reservations made "without the Board's Privity, for which reason he requests "his name may be taken from the Deed to which he had "signed as a witness, thinking that it corresponded with the Minute "above mentioned of the 7th December, 1789.*

"No 13 Mr. Robertson states that the Deed of cession of the Land purchased in May 1790 is not agreeable to the minute of the Board of the 7th Decr 1789.

"Paper No 14. A Letter from the Deputy Surveyor of the District "of Hesse dated 21st September 1790, addressed to John "Collins Esqr Deputy Surveyor General with 7 Inclosures No "1 a 7 Inclusive.

"No 14

"The scope of the Letter is to shew the Surveyor Gen- "eral's office that the slow progress made to that Period in "settling the waste Lands of the Crown in that distant "Quarter, is not to be attributed to the Surveying Depart- "ment. The Board had no land to grant before the 26th "May. They took from that day to the 2d July to form an "order of Survey!

"The slow progress made in the settlement of the waste Lands of the Crown in Hesse is not to be attributed to the surveying Dept

"Mr. McNiff apprehends the Land Board from a want of knowledge in the surveying line are inadequate to the Business

"He regards three of the members of the Land Board as inadequate to the Business (Messrs Powell, Grant & Robertson) which they themselves, on the 10th of August were obliged to own, as he states.

"They have sat 14 months without settling a single lot.

"The first order of survey was imperfect and inexplicit & could not be executed. On the 30th July its defects were made known to the Board (excepting that which referred to the General Plan of Survey). There was no direction for the course of the Front lines of the Lots of the Townships to be laid out — If the General Plan is to be carried into Execution throughout the Settlement many families will be deranged & ruined—And the Board was advertised of this, prior to that order of 2d July–

"Adherence to the general Plan for settling Townships would in this instance ruin some familys & derange others.

"He offered his service to assist in making out the Orders of Survey—His offer was taken amiss by Mr Powell.

"A regular Plan of the Shore of the Country (which the Board wanted to be surveyed & subdivided) was laid before the Board on the 30th July, & at the same time the Plan adopted for the general Form of Townships fronting on Lakes & Rivers, & explained both, to shew the impracticability of carrying their order of the 2d July into effect without removing the Inhabitants, by which they would be to a man ruined; That the new form or Plan was intended by Government to take place only where no former settlement had been made, That the people forming the new Settlements in Question were composed of disbanded Soldiers & Loyalists, & were settled there by authority from Government in 1787, when ninety seven Lots were laid out in the best manner that could then be done by the best Surveyor they then could find (not so professionally) & the faith of government is pledged to these People for peaceable enjoyment of their Lots.

"The impracticability of carrying out Order of the Land Board of Hesse of 2d July into execution without injury to the settlers to whom the Faith of Government is pledged.

"After the second order of Survey which was more inexplicit than the first (which he communicated to a member of the Board Mr Robertson) he remained inactive untill the 10th August, when Sir John Johnson Sat as President of a Board called that day.

"The second order of survey more inexplicit than the first

"Proposed that the Surveyor of the District be authorized to assist the Board in framing such Instructions as they may issue to him.

" He thinks a Person of Professional & official knowledge " would be a good acquisition to the Board; or, that the " Surveyor of the District may have authority to point out " to the Board when issuing Instructions such things as " may be necessary to give clearness and method to their " proceedings.

" He adds this remark untill one or other is the Case—I dare to affirm " the Land Board under the directions of the former three ruling mem- " bers will not in three years if left to themselves place three familys " more on the Land than are already there."

" He assigns three reasons, why the present Land Board are unequal " to the settling of the Country.

"The grounds of Mr. Mc Niffs conception that the members of the Land Board of Hesse are unequal to the business assigned them

" 1st Their deficiency in knowledge of the Business of " the Surveyor General's Department.

" 2d Persons in Trade, or having been in Trade, or hav- " ing Family connections in Trade will rather retard than " forward a Settlement which will injure the present trading " Interest.

" 3d The Land Board is composed of too many Individ- " uals one Person only without family connections whose " Private views, he might be led to favour, would soon alter " the face of affairs for the better in that Country.

" The Inclosures in the foregoing Letter are No 1 & 2. The two " Orders of Survey mentioned 3, 4, 5, 6 & 7, Letters from Mr McNiff to " the Members of the Land Office Board at Hesse on the Subject of " the orders.

" N. B. Mr. Collins & Mr Grant considered the Report of the Land " Board of Hesse (or rather their *opinion* as stated in the copy of their " Minutes) referred by Lord Dorchester to the Land Com- " mittee 20th October for Report; and having perused the " Draft of a Report; & having perused the Draft of a Report " on the situation of the Rangers, Loyalists and others " intended to be presented to Lord Dorchester in Council as " the opinion of this committee. Mr Collins & Mr Grant " approved it & ordered it to be engrossed & delivered to Mr " Motz this 3d January 1791, which was done accordingly by H. F. in " the Chair.

"Report upon the situation of certain Rangers & Loyalists ord'd to be laid before Lord Dorchester

[Q 58–2, p 332]

Friday 7th January 1791.

"The Members of the Land Committee sitting this day in a Com-
"mittee of the Whole Council, could not take up any Land Business.

"Friday 14th January

"The Committee met
"Present
"Mr. Finlay in the Chair
"Col. Caldwell
"Mr. Grant

"The Chairman submitted the Draft of a Letter to Sir John John-
"son in the name of the Committee, which being read, was ordered to
"be sent in the words following.

"Quebec January 1791.

"SIR

"By order of the Land Committee I have the honor to trans-
"Letter to Sir John Johnson requesting him to state the causes of the obstructions that have impeded the settlement of the East side of the Streight of Detroit.
"mit to you a copy of His Excellency Lord Dorchesters
"order of reference to them of the 20th October last,
"together with the resolve of the Committee of the 10th of
"December in consequence of that reference.

"I have also been charged to request, you may have *the*
"*goodness to inform* them of the causes of the difficulties &
"impediments (if any have come to your knowledge) that
"have hitherto obstructed the Progress of the Settlement on
"the East side of the Streight of Detroit."

"The Committee likewise wish to be favoured with your opinion upon
"What is necessary to effect a full Survey of the Crown Lands agreeable to the King's Instructions
"what you conceive to be necessary to effect a regular and
"full survey of the Crown Lands agreeable to His Majesty's
"Instructions on that head. They further wish to know
"whether you do not think that it would be sufficient for
"the purpose of settling such People as may have come into
"the Province since the Peace, and of those who may come
"into it hereafter from the United States with an intention to become
"Settlers under the late act of Parliament published in the Quebec
"Gazette the 14th October last.

"Were relative to the mode of subdividing Townships
"The front line of every Township shall be run out & well
"marked, & the width of the Lots set off upon that Line by
"stakes or other marks well fixed & numbered, running

" ships to " obviate diffi- " culty in " finding out " the lots in " ranges of " concess's.

" the side Lines of these Lots back for a distance of Two " or Three Chains perpendicular to, or at right angles with " the front line, to serve as a sufficient direction for finding " any Lot in any of the different concessions or ranges of " Lots that may be contained within the Township.

" I have the Honor to be

" Sir

" Your very obedient

" humble Servant "

[Q 58–2, p 337]

" Mr. Grant proposed that a Letter be written by the Chairman in " the name of the Committee to the Land Office Board of Hesse, and " the following was accordingly agreed on.

QUEBEC 19th January 1791.

GENTLEMEN,

By order of the Land Committee, I have the Honor to transmit to " you a copy of His Excellency Lord Dorchester's order of Reference " of the 20th of October last & to request information from " your Board touching the matters stated therein to enable " this Committee to report as soon as may be thereupon with " due precision as has been commanded.

" Letter to the " Land Board " of Hesse on " the same " subject.

" The Committee likewise wish to know what your Board conceives " to be such a Survey of the Waste Lands in the District of Hesse, as " might be sufficient to effectuate their Settlement at the least expence " to Government.

" I have the Honor to be

" Gentlemen &ca.

" Likewise a Letter to Mr. McNiff Surveyor of Lands in that District " to be as follows—

" QUEBEC 19th January 1791.

" SIR

" Letter to Mr. " McNiff " Surveyor of " Hesse on the " same subject.

" I herewith transmit to you by order of the Land Com- " mittee a copy of His Excellency Lord Dorchester's order " of reference to them of the 20th of October last.

" The Committee wish to receive from you as Surveyor in that District, " information relative to the difficulties & impediments that may have " obstructed the progress of the settlement on the East side of the river, " or rather the Streight of Detroit, & that you may give them your " Opinion as to the best means of removing those Inpediments *if any* " *remain.* I am Sir &ca.

"Further proceedings on this reference postponed until answers are received to the foregoing Letters.

"Resolved that the further consideration of the matters "contained in the reference now before this Committee upon "the Land Office Business of Hesse dated 20th October be "postponed until answers can be received from Sir John "Johnson, & the Land Board of Hesse, & Mr. McNiff the "Surveyor.

[Q 58–2, p 339.]

LETTER FROM ALEXANDER MC KEE.

"Detroit 25th May 1790.

"Sir

"In my letter dated the 21st Instant I informed you of the purchase "being completed from the natives to the Crown, the Particulars of "which I shall now more fully make known to you.

"The reasons for acceding to the reservation of Lands in favour of "the Indians in the late Purchase of the Country, (the limits of which "I stated in my last) are, that, the Hurons have been in "possession of a Tract of Land situated between the Huron "Church and the River au Jarvais about one mile in front, "on which they erected a village, and another Tract situated "at the River au Canard between the Indian Office Land, "and the French Settlement, about five miles in Front, "where they have another village erected, in which Places "they enjoyed many years Peaceable and uninterrupted Possession "by and with the unanimous consent of their confederates, the "Lake Indians, which at this time it was discovered they had no "inclination to cede, and to persist in it, had a tendency of Interrupting the unanimous consent of the nations concerned, to acquiesce in "the request of the crown.

"Copy of a Letter from A. McKee Esqr. assigning the Reasons why the Reserve at the River Canard was made.

"Therefore to continue the good faith of those nations as well to "each other, as to convince them of the Justice of government, it was "thought expedient to secure to them the enjoyment of the Tract "reserved, which they now occupy.

"That it is expressly ordered by His Excellency the Governor "that "all Possible regard shall be had to the ease and comfort of the "Indians" which would have been materially affected, had not the "reserve been made.

" That the reserve has served as a Bond of Confidence among the " Nations concerned, and has greatly confirmed and strengthened their " union, besides securing an unreserved attachment to government, for " a Proof as unequivocal of its tenderness towards them. That the orders " of government could not be carried into effect had the reserve not " been made. The Hurons having absolutely refused to accede to " relinquish their possession, and the other Indians having publicly " declared in Council, That they expected as a condition for their " acquiescence in ceding their Territory, That this Tract should be " reserved for their use, In which had they not been grateful, the cession " could not have been made in the unanimous and complete manner it " has been done, in Testimony of which they delivered Strings of Wam- " pum. That the intention and express purpose of the Deed of Cession " to the Crown in 1784, of this Tract was in Trust to me, to secure " the Indians from incroachments, being convinced they would be dis- " turbed in their Possessions which eventually must have produced " troubles between them and the white Inhabitants, and to evince the " truth of this I have no objections to relinquish any Interest or claim " to the said Tract for the public good.

" It may be proper to observe that the reserve in question has been " attended with the most happy effects, having completely reconciled " any discontent that might have subsisted amongst them.

" From which it may I presume with reason be concluded, that to " grant the reserves in question, was not only necessary, but a humane " and Politic measure.

" That the Body of the Hurons have been well known for their " attachment to Government by their bravery & services during the late " war, having lost many of their principal men when acting in con- " junction with the King's Troops, To which I was a witness. Altho' " it may be possible there may be some miscontented amongst them, " yet in general no nations have been more attached.

" That the Deputation of the said nations intended to go to Canada " some time ago. The Hurons particularly respecting their claims to " have the matter settled before you and His Excellency the Governor, " and the idea of which they have not yet altogether laid aside.

" I have the Honor to be
" Sir
" Your most obedient &
" most humble Servant
[signed] A. McKee

MONTREAL 25th Jany 1791—

"Resolved, that the Chairman request Sir John Johnson to inform
"Is it practicable to get the Indians to relinquish the Reserve at the Riv. Canard.
"the Committee, how far he conceives it may be practicable "to satisfy the Huron Indians by Lands in any other part "of the District of Hesse, in lieu of the reserve made in "the late Purchase of Lands from the Indians near Detroit, "and on what Terms?

"The Committee resumed the consideration of the last Report from "the Land Office Board of Hesse, between the 20th August & 23d "October 1790. The remarks made upon reading the minute are,

"That the Plan of a Town Plot annexed to the Report and Submitted
"Plan of a Town Plot for two townships on Lake Erie, seems convenient for both
"to Lord Dorchester, seems to be well laid out, & as far as "the Committee can Judge without reference to the Plan of "the Two Townships, (for the accommodation of which it is "intended, upon the north side of Lake Erie) it will be con- "veniently situated for both.

"The Board of Hesse remark in their Letter at the end of their
"Inconveniences will arise if the Plan for laying out Townships on navigable Rivers be rigorously observed.
"Report; "That many inconveniences will arise to obstruct "the Settlement of the Country, provided the present Plan "of Reservations in Townships lying upon Rivers or Lakes "be rigorously adhered to, seeing that only two Lots in "front, or Water Lots can be granted, by the Rules and "Regulations of the 25th August 1789 may be wanted for "the conduct of the Land Office Department."

"Upon the Land Boards observations relative to discharged
"The Committee concur with the Land Board of Hesse, on the means of encouraging certain Rangers & others to settle near the Streight of Detroit.
"Rangers & others who obtained certificates for Locations "at the Mouth of Detroit River & were promised Provisions "& Tools, This Committee reported the 3rd January last, and "were of the same opinion with the Board of Hesse, relative "to the expediency of securing to them their Lots, as well "as to grant them Provisions, that they might be in no worse "condition than People under the same circumstances who "settled in the Lower parts of the New Districts.

[Q 58–2, p 344]

Friday 4 February 1791.

"Present

"Messrs Finlay, Collins, Caldwell, Grant & DeLanaudiere.

"Mr. Finlay laid before the Committee, Sir John Johnson's Letter

" of the 27th January in answer to one of the 19th written by direction " of the Committee.

" The letter is in these words.

" MONTREAL 27th January 1791

" SIR,

" I have the Honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter " by order of the Land Committee, of the 19th Instant, " inclosing a copy of Lord Dorchester's order of Reference " to them of the 20th of October last, together with the " Resolve of the Committee of the 10th of December in con- " sequence thereof which I would have answered by the " Return of the Post, but for the departure of the express " on that Day for the upper Districts."

" Sir Jo Johnson's Letter in answer to that wrote to him by the Chairman of the land Commee. the 19 Jany.

" I have the Honor to observe, in answer to your request in conse- " quence of the Resolve of the committee, That, as my opinion must " be founded more upon official Information than any other know- " ledge I could have acquired on the Subject."

" I cannot give the Committee more satisfaction than by trans- " mitting for their Information a copy of a Letter from Alexander " McKee Esqr Deputy Agent of Indian affairs on the subject and to " which I beg leave to refer them."

" From the best Information I was able to collect, when in the " District of Hesse, of the causes of the Difficulties and " Impediments that had obstructed the Settlement on the " East side of the Streight of Detroit, I found the fol- " lowing to be the principle vizt—The not continuing to " give permission to Loyalists & Emigrants from the States " to take up Lands in the manner that had been authorized " and practiced by Major Mathews, and Major Close on the " Land ceded to the Indian officers &ca by the Indians pre- " vious to the establishment of the Land Boards, Surveys of " which had been made under the direction of one or both " of these gentlemen, but were not considered as valid by " the Land Board as they did not conceive the Land legally " vested in the Crown, nor the Surveyor properly qualified " to act consequently no certificates for land would be granted " till the late purchese, and a proper Survey thereof could " be made, which naturally put a stop to all further Progress " of the Settlement until those ends were obtained—a lapse

" Ascribed causes of the impediments to the settlement E. Side of Detroit

" The stop put to the old mode of taking up grants of land in the Tract ceded by the Indians to the officers &ca of the Ind. Dept.

" No location certificates could be granted until the Tract should be legally vested in the Crown.

"Some "Emigrants "finding they "could not "obtain land "immediately "on their "arrival "returned to "the States "To obtain a "regular "survey of the "Crown "Lands, the "Townships "ought to be "laid out from "front to rear.

"of time of near sixteen months took place before any part "of the Survey was made, and in the Interim some of the "Emigrants from the States, in order to support their fam- "ilies, purchased Lands, and are settled, as I have been "informed, on both sides of the Treaty line, and some who "came in last year were obliged to return to the States, "after having expended the little Property they brought "with them—There can be no other method adopted, in my "opinion, To effect a regular and full survey of the Crown "Lands than by employing a sufficient number of Surveyors, "and laying out the Townships from Front to Rear, which "I conceive to be agreeable to the King's Instructions on "that head.

"No lines marked in the manner suggested by the committee will "answer, they have been tried, and only serve to create a confusion "and disputes among the Settlers, and will be the cause of "much future Litigation perhaps, as the demands for Land "are not so great as heretofore the running of two or three "concessions, or more according to the Population of the Township "might answer for the Present.

"No other "mode will "ever answer,

"The present mode of laying out The Townships on Navigable "Rivers will totally overset the design of settling the "country, as the whole of the Front, except two lots is laid "out in a Town Plot and Reserves, by which means the "whole face of the Country would remain in Wilderness "unless we are to suppose that cities and towns will rise up "much faster than hitherto, now that the emigration from the "States has been checked, and that Government will occupy the "Reserves, or grant them to Persons who will make immediate "Improvements on them. Such Town Plots might answer very "well where good harbours or favourable situations may "offer, and may be proper for, or likely to become a "County Town, or might answer in an Inland Country, "but will never do on a Navigable River. Thus I have "endeavoured to give the committee every Information that the time

"The plan pre- "scribed for "laying out "Townships "on Navigable "rivers will "prevent the "settlement of "the country.

"The Plan "may answer "well where "there are "good "harbours

" would allow of, and I shall be happy if it proves any way serviceable " to the Publick.

" I have the Honor to be
" Sir
" Your most obedient
" Humble Servant
Signed " John Johnson."

" The Honble Hugh Finlay Esqr "

[Q 58-2, p 341]

" Land Committee, Friday 18th Feby. 1791.

" None of the Members, (the chairman excepted) attended—

" At a special meeting of the Land Committee
" Tuesday 22d February 1791.

" Present
" Messrs Finlay, Collins & Grant.

" The Chairman laid before the Committee a Copy of a Letter he " wrote to Sir John Johnson the 11th Current, in obedience to the " Committee's order of the 4th February as follows.

" Quebec 11th February 1791.

" Sir,

" The Letter which you honored me in answer to mine of the 19th " January was laid before the Land Committee at their first meeting " after I received it, and this day having occasion to recon- " sider that Letter, The Committee have ordered that I as " chairman pray you to inform them touching the practica- " bility of satisfying the Hurons by Lands in any other " Parts of the District & upon what Terms, in lieu of " the Tract reserved for them, which reserve may be very incommo- " dious to the County Town of Hesse on that side of the Streight & " to the Indians themselves—His Lordship's views being to serve both " them and the common Interest."

" May not the " Hurons be " brought to " relinquish " the Reserve " at the River " Canard.

" I have the Honor to be
" Sir
" Yours &c

" The Hble
" Sir John Johnson Bart
" Superintendant General
" of Indian Affairs"

" Friday 25th February 1791.
" Friday 4th March 1791.
" Friday 11th March 1791.
" Friday 18th March 1791,

" Mr Finlay Chairman of the Land Committee absent at Montreal " on Publick Business by order of Lord Dorchester.
" The Land Board did not meet during that time—

" Friday 25th March.

" Legislative Council sitting, all the Members of the Committee " attending in their seats at that Board.

" Friday 1st April 1791.

" Mr Finlay and Mr Grant attended at 10 o'clock, the usual Hour of " meeting, & waited until 11 o'clock, when no other member appearing " no business could be done.

" Friday 8th April 1791.

" The Members of the Committee attending the Legislative Council " did not meet this day.

" Friday 15th April 1791.

" The Members of the Land Committee attending in Legislative " Council.

" Friday 22d April

" Good Friday—no business to be done.

" Friday, 29th April, 1791.

" The members of the Land committee were sitting in the Legislative " Council & could not attend to the Business of the Land committee.

" Friday 13th May 1791.

" Mr. Grant being a member of the committee on the Public Accounts " was not present & neither Mr. Collins Col Caldwell nor Mr. DeLan- " audiere attending no business could be done.

" Friday 20th May.

" Mr. Finlay & Mr. Grant attended, no other member appearing " adjourned.

" Friday 27th May 1791.

" Pressing Business of the Agriculture Society requiring Mr. Finlay's " attendance, likewise Mr. Grants' & Mr. DeLanaudiere's, there was " no meeting of the Land Committee that Day.
[Q. 58-2, p 349]

" Friday 3rd June 1791.

" Present

" Messrs Finlay, Collins & Grant

" Read a Letter from Sir John Johnson of the 17th Februy in " answer to the Chairman's of the 11th praying Sir John to state " whether the Hurons could not be prevailed on to relinquish the " seven Mile Tract, which they conceive to be reserved for them oppo- " site to Detroit, out of the great Tract lately purchased on the " North Side of Lake Erie.

" The Superintendt of Indn Affairs thinks it will be difficult to get the Hurons to relinquish the Reserve at the River Canard.

" Sir John states that he consulted Mr. McKee the Deputy " Superintendant of Indian Affairs touching the relinquish- " ment of a part of the reserve of the seven mile Tract, " as much as would answer the purpose of a Scite for a " County Town, to a certain Creek, but he thinks it would " be difficult to prevail on them to abandon it wholly— " when he hears from Mr. McKee he will write more fully " to this Board on the subject."

" This Letter was kept back until answers on the same subject " should be received from the Land Board of Hesse, & Mr. McNiff.

" Read a Letter from the Land Office Board of Hesse dated 6th May " last which came to the Chairman's hand a few days since accom- " panied by two Papers marked C No 1, C No 2. The first is copy of " a Deed of gift, grant enfeofment of a Tract of Land on the South " Side of Detroit River, Seven Miles Square, 15th May 1786.* The " other paper contains a sketch of the Settlements (under authority) " on Lake Erie, on the Tract lately purchased from the Indians like- " wise the Settlements made without authority under Indian grants to " Individuals upon the River La Franche.

" The Land Board of Hesse observe before May 1790 the Crown had no lands in Hesse except seven miles sq. at Riv. Canard ceded to the King by Indians in May 1786, & another Tract of the same

" This Letter is in answer to one wrote by the Chairman of " this Committee desiring Information relative to matters stated " in Lord Dorchester's order of reference of 20th Octobr " last, copy of which was sent to the Board of Hesse; They " observe " That before the 21st May 1790, The Crown had " no lands in Hesse, except a square of Seven Miles at " the River Canard upon the Streight, ceded to his Majesty " by the Ottawa & Chippawa Indians 15th May 1786 by Deed, " Together with an other Tract of Seven Miles ceded the 7th " June 1784, by the Chippawas & Hurons at the Mouth of

*Published on page 27

"extent which is claimed by officers & others who had served in the late war with the Indians likewise a few grants made by the French King, all the rest derive from Indn Grants

the Streight, which is claimed by, as being granted to and for the use of certain officers & soldiers who had served in the late War with the Indians, the grantors of that Tract. There is likewise a few grants which were made by the French King;—all the rest of the Settlements are claimed as deriving from Grants made to Individuals by the Indians countenanced by the Commanding Officer & Lieut–Governor of Detroit.

"A McKee Dep. Sup. of Indians claimed the Tract at Riv. Canard & petioned for a grant from the Crown

"Alexr McKee Esqr. claimed the Tract at the River Canard for his own use & that of his friends, and he petitioned for a grant of it under the Crown, which petition was referred by His Excellency Lord Dorchester to the Board of Hesse the 21st January 1790—it was withdrawn by Mr. McKee 14th May 1790, and has not been returned since."

"The Board has not been able to procure a survey of a single Township therefore cannot make grants.

"That the Board of Hesse, has not been able notwithstanding its utmost efforts, to procure a return of Survey of a single Township from the Surveyor General's Office, in which to locate the Petitioners for Lands, in that District."

"The reservation of the Tract at R. Canard prevents a county town from being built.

"That the reservations at the River Canard (the Seven Mile Tract) will prevent Lord Dorchester's order of 2d Sep 1790 for laying out a County Town on the East side of the Streight."

"The seven mile Tract was the Crown's. Mr. McKee apply'd for it as the Crown's

"That the Board has supposed the Seven Mile Tract to be vested in the Crown by the Deed gift of May 1786, & they remark, that Mr. McKee pressed the Indians to recommend to the Governor, to grant that very Tract to him, Mr. McKee, and they state that they cannot perceive any good that is to result in reserving a waste in the heart of the Settlement which would interrupt the Communication & the

"No benefit can result from a waste in the heart of the Settlement

Board refers this Commee to (Mr. McKee) for the cause that render this Tract now so essential for the comfort of the Indians."

"The reserve of the Church with 4 acres round it is necessary for the comfort of Indians near River Jervais, but no more, & their claims may be purchased

"The reserve* for the Hurons is necessary for their comfort—they are practical christians & have a church with about four acres of land attached to it, in Superficies which does not interfere with the extensive Plain between the Church and the River of Jervais, which might afford a scite for a County Town.

"The Board conceive it to be very practicable to satisfy the Hurons in any other part of the District, but they observe, that the satisfaction is not to be made to the Hurons alone, but to these Tribes who ceded the Tract in May last vizt the Ottawas & Chippawas."

"The Board submit, whether, if the Chippawas & Ottawas who were parties to both the Deeds of Cession, that of 15th May 1790, were to be again assembled & the two Deeds laid before them, they would not relinquish the reserve at the River Canard, on receiving a consideration, which they perhaps looked for, on making the cession of 1786, which they did not consider as paid for by the Presents of May 1790."

"The Board propose the means of obtaining a relinquishment of the Tract at the River Canard

"It is highly desirable to be at the disposal of the Crown

"On the whole, the Land Board of Hesse consider the Reserve of the Seven Mile Tract to be highly desirable to be at the disposal of the Crown, for reasons stated in their Report to the Governor 28th May 1790."

"It contains lime stone not to be found elsewhere but on Stony Island. Expediency of laying down accurately on Paper the whole of the late Purchase previous to laying out a second range of Townships

"It is necessary for the welfare of the Settlement, that the Tract should be in the hands of Government, as it contains Lime Stone, not to be found elsewhere, but on Stoney Island, in the Possession of Mr. William McComb."

"The Board" refer to a Sketch of the Tract for Settlement, to shew, (as is their opinion) that the whole should be accurately laid down on Paper before a Second Township back from the water should any where be laid off, to prevent the lines of one, from interfering with the other, as in Cornwall & Luneburg."

"Reference to a Plan of the Settlements on the borders of Lake Erie & the River La Franche

The Board further state That "there are scattered settlements on Lake Erie and La Riviere La Franche, as may appear by the Plan from Æ to AO—and from NR to NP, the first on the files under the sanction of the Commandants of Detroit, & confirmed by the Land Board of Hesse; The latter *without any authority* but Indian Grants."

* At the Huron Church, near the Riv. Jervais

"It is necessary that a Survey of the Tract purchased be before the Board, to prevent confusion & litigation among the Settlers. On a supposition that the 10th Art of the Reg. of 17th Feby 1789 may be relinquished a sufficient survey of Townships would be to run 4 sides marking a Road between each Row of Concessions & to stake out the Front Lots.

"The Board" submit as their opinion That however great "the first expence may be, it is indispensably necessary for "the future quiet of the Settlers, & for the assurance of the "Royal Grant, that a survey of the whole Tract purchased "should be before the Board, before they issue directions "for any part of it, to be laid out in townships, & that no "settler be located by the Board, without having before it "a Plan of the Township in which he is to be placed; "Any proceedings without such precaution must subject the "Board to error, the Settler to confusion and litigation, & "the Government to reproach. They think that a sufficient "Survey (supposing the 10th Article of the Rules and Reg-"ulations of 17th Feby 1789, relinquished) of a Township "might be done by a single surveyor and his Party in 10 "Days, so as to enable the Board to grant Locations. Noth-"ing more would (in their opinion) be necessary than to "run the four sides, making the Road space between each "Row of Concessions measuring off, staking out and num-"bering in the usual manner the Front Lots."

Upon such a Plan, the Board could make the necessary "reserves.

"It would be well were nothing left to be done by the granted towards ascertaining the bounds of his Lot

"The Settlers on the front Line would easily find their Lots "from the Surveyor's numbers, & those in the second, "third concessions, &ca might measure them off from the "side Lines. But the Board submit upon the whole, "whether it would not be better to leave nothing to be "done by the Proprietor towards ascertaining his Lots since "the whole could be done by a Deputy Surveyor & his "assistants at an expense of 10 or 12 days labour."

"Letter from Mr. McNiff D. Surveyor Withholding the Provisions given to Settlers at first discouraged the Settlemt at Detroit.

"Read a Letter from Mr. McNiff Deputy Surveyor for Hesse, "dated at Detroit 3d May 1791. in answer to the "chairman of this Boards Letter to him of 19th January "last, covering a copy of Lord Dorchester's Orders of 20th "October last, to the Land Committee. Stating

"That "when government concluded to settle the import-"ant Frontier of Detroit, all encouragement was held out to "Settlers, but the Provisions at first issued, were afterwards "withheld. A hundred young able men left the country in

"one year for that reason, a great hindrance to the settlement of the "District! & a great Loss to government."

"That when Settlers, invited by Government, came from the "States, they were told there was no waste Land "belonging to the Crown in the District, that it was all "private property under Indian Grants; on finding this they "returned to the States; some of them had not money to "carry them back and were forced to agree with the claim- "ants under *Indian Grants to pay £100* for *a Hundred* "*acres* of waste Land.

"Emigrants from the States finding no Lands returned. Some having no money to carry them back, remained.

"The Quakers (about Twenty families applied for Lands & by "their agent chose a Tract) from Red Stone, who "came into this country to settle (from Pensilvania) were "forced to return."

"Quakers from Pensylvania returned.

"And further, That the Reserves in the Townships standing on "Lakes & Rivers according to the present Plan, greatly impedes "the Settlements of the Country, seeing that but two Farm Lots can "be granted in front, two in the second, and Twelve in the third Con- "cession. No body will consent to settle in he back concessions & "leave such a Tract of wood in their Front, thro' which they would "have to make Roads."

"He has laid out four Townships, two on each side of the "River La Franche according the the Plan prescribed, but "none of those who have applied for Land will go into the "back Concessions; in these Townships he found Twenty "eight Families settled in the Front who have made con- "siderable improvements, but they would be removed were "the order for surveying the Townships to be carried into "execution there."

"Four Townships laid out on each side R. La Franche were the Plan to be adhered to, 28 Families there settled would be removed

"He refers to the Inspector General of Indian Affairs, "how far the reserves at the River Canard may or may "not be injurious to the Settlement of that Country. "The Reserve at the Huron Church is of no consequence, being only "a barren Sandy Plain; That at the River Canard is very "valuable, & should a Town be established near the Island "of Bois Blanc, the reserve would prove very injurious to "the Inhabitants from the depredations of Indians or their "cattle & Hogs. He thinks that Land (the seven mile

"Reserve at the Huron Church of no consequence

"The Reserve at the River Canard will injure the Settlement intended opposite I of Bois Blanc

"it may be bought from the Indians for a trifling consideration

"reserve) might be bought from the Indians for a very "trifling consideration, & they may be well provided for at "River Chenail Ecarté near the entrance of Lake St Clair "on the North East Shore."

"The streight well inhabited.

"He represents, that all the Land on the shore of the "streight, from the north boundary of the Reserve at the "River Canard, as far up as Peach Island in Lake St Clair, "is thickly inhabited. That the Inhabitants have petitioned "to have their Lands extended back to the fifth Concession, "because they want wood.

"The Settlers desire to obtain Grants of the fifth concession back it would prevent the Settlement of the Country

"He thinks this would prevent the settlement of the "Country & they would not clear & improve the second, "third & fourth concessions, and no farmer would sit down "on the fifth. He represents, that there's no wood nearer "the front concession, which is near eighty arpents, or a League, from "the front or the water side."

"He does not find from the River Canard upwards, any Land left "for Public Roads, each inhabitant passing through his own "Land, & the opening of Roads requires immediate attention, as a means of inducing English Farmers to settle "back, rather than go a great distance up the River La "Franche.

No land left for Public Roads, it requires immediate attention.

Townships would be well laid out on the R. La Franche. Ten would take up a space of ninety miles in front. In which, according to the present plan 20 Lots only could be settled.

"In his letter of the 5th May, he suggests, that it would "be well to lay out a number of Townships on the River "La Franche. Ten would take up a space of ninety miles "along the River, under the present plan, but according to "that plan no more than twenty Farmers could be settled "in front of that great space, at such distance from neighbors as to render it impracticable to assist each other in "any manner. The Indians pass in great numbers up "& down that River, & behave in a disorderly manner often "killing the cattle & Hogs of the settlers, but were they "close settled this could not happen."

"The chairman observed to the committee, that considering the "length of time the proceedings of the Land Board of Hesse had been "before the committee for Report, it would be necessary to "proceed thereon & proposed to enter upon that business "immediately, considering that until the Claim of the "Huron Indians for a Reserve of a Tract of seven miles "square opposite Detroit is decided, the settlement of the

Chairman of the Land Comm. proposes to report their proceedings.

" Country on the East side of the Streight of Detroit must be greatly " retarded."

" Mr. Grant proposed that the minute of this Board of the 3d June be " read, relative to a Letter from Sir John Johnson touching the Reserve " at Detroit, and being read it is therein stated, that Sir. " John Johnson expecting Information from Alex McKee " Esqr the Deputy Super. Intendant general relative to that " claim will when received communicate the same to this Board.

" Sir J. Johnson's information touching the reserves at Detroit necessary previous to a report from the Land committee upon this reference.

" Resolved, that the chairman request Sir John, to inform " them whether he has received the expected information, " & if he has, to communicate the same, to enable them to " report on the matters referred to them without further " delay.

" Friday 8th September 1791.

" Mr Finlay & Mr Collins only attending, no business could be done, there not being a Committee.

[Q 58–2, p 352]

" Friday, 16th September 1791.

" Present

" Mr Finlay, Mr Collins & Mr Grant

" The Chairman laid before the Board the Copy of a Letter written " to Sir John Johnson in consequence of a resolve of the 2d Sep- " tember, The Letter is as follows & was forwarded 5th September pr. " Post.

" Quebec 2d September 1791.

" Sir John Johnson Bart

" Sir,

" I have been directed by the Land Committee to request of you to " inform them whether you have heard from Mr McKee the Deputy " Super Intendant of Indian affairs, touching the Tract of Seven Miles " Square, which the Huron Indians conceive to be reserved for them " opposite to Detroit, as the Committee are anxious to Report upon " Lord Dorchester's reference of the Proceedings of the Land office " Board of Hesse & other matters, which they will not be able to do " satisfactorily, without Information on the Subject from Mr McKee."

" I have the Honor to be

Sir

Your &ca

" Mr Grant's attendance at the Court of Common Pleas being " required, & seeing no answer has as yet been received from Sir John " Johnson to Mr. Finlay's Letter of 2d Septemr.

" Ordered, That the Chairman lay before the Committee at their next " meeting a draft of a Report upon the matters contained in the " Papers transmitted from the Land Office Board of Hesse and referred " to this Committee by His Excellency Lord Dorchester.

" Friday 23d September 1791.

" Present

" Mr. Finlay in the Chair

" Mr. Grant &

" Mr. Collins

" The Chairman informed the Board, that he had received a Letter " from Mr. Chew Secy to the Indian Departt which gives him hopes " of hearing from Sir John Johnson relative to the prac- " ticability of satisfying the Huron Indians for the Tract " reserved for them at the River Canard, by a grant of " Land elsewhere, as soon as he receives information on that head from " Mr. McKee the Deputy Superintendant of Indian Affairs; Therefore he " had not prepared a Draft of a Report as ordered by the Committee " on the 23d, to be laid before the Board at their next meeting. The " Committee having approved thereof Resolved that the Chairman defer " the Report until Friday the 28th October next.

" Report of the " committee " deferred.

" Friday 28th October 1791

" At the weekly meeting of the Land Committee

" Present

" Mr. Finlay in the Chair

" Mr. Collins

" Mr. Grant

" Read the Draft of a Report upon the Papers from the Land " Board of Hesse (referred to the Land Committee in October 1790) " which having been amended,—ordered, that the Chairman prepare a " fair copy thereof to be laid before the committee with all convenient " speed.

" Friday 4th November 1791

" Friday 11th November 1791

" Friday 18th November 1791

" The Chairman confined to his House through sickness the Com- " mittee did not meet.

" Quebec 29th November 1791.

" At a special meeting of the Land Committee
" Present
" Mr. Finlay in the Chair
" Mr. Collins
" Mr. Grant
" Mr. DeLanaudiere

" The Chairman observed to the Committee that he had been con-
" fined by sickness ever since their last meeting, it had not been in his
" power sooner to comply with the order of the Board. He then pro-
" duced a fair copy of the Report which had been submitted on the
" 28th of October, and being read & approved by the Committee
" *Ordered*, That the Chairman sign the Report, and annex thereto a
" copy of the Journals of the Committee, and present the same to His
" Excellency the commander in Chief without delay

" A true Copy
(signed) Hugh Finlay
in the Chair.

[Q 58–2, p 362]

" Copies of the letters referred to in the foregoing report

" Letter to the Land Office Board of the District of Hesse dated at
" Detroit 6th May 1791 in answer to a Letter from Mr. Finlay Chair-
" man of the Land Committee dated at Quebec 19th January 1791.

" District of Hesse

" Detroit 6th May 1791

" Sir

" The Land Board for this District have before them your Letter of
" 19 January last, written by order of the Land Committee of the Hon-
" orable Council covering a copy of His Excellency Lord Dorchesters
" order of reference, of the 20th October last, and requesting Informa-
" tion from this Board, touching the Matter stated therein."

" This Board as such, has regularly communicated its minutes of
" Proceedings to the office of the Governor's Secretary, in which it will
" appear, that until the 21st of May last when the purchase of a Tract
" of Country, from Long Point to the Chenail Ecarté was obtained
" from the Indians, the Crown had no waste Lands within the Dis-
" trict known to the Land Board, except a square of seven Miles, at
" the River Canard, in the Streight, which had been ceded by the
" Ottawa and Chippewa Indians to the King's use by deed of 15th
" May 1786. The cession of 7th June 1784 by the Chippewa &

" Hurons, of a similar Tract, at the mouth of the Streight, being " claimed to the use of certain officers & Soldiers, who had served with " the Indians—all other settlements in this District, except a few on " the Strait by grant from the French King, being on private pur- " chases from the Indians to the occupiers or their Lessors, That His " Excellency the Governor's Instructions to this Board of 2d Sept. " 1789, prevented the location of the Tract at the River Canard which " was claimed by Alexander McKee Esquire, for the use of himself " and his particular friends, by a Petition referred to this Board by My " Lord Dorchester's order of 21st January 1790—but withdrawn by Mr " McKee 14th May 90, and not since returned."

" From the day that the Purchase was announced to the Board, no " exertion on its part has been able to procure from the Surveyor " General's office, the returns of Survey of a single Township, in which " they could locate the Petitioners, under any of the several Instruc- " tions issued from time to time, respecting the Settlement of the " Waste Lands of the Crown in this District."

" As the Reservations at the River Canard, and Huron Plain, " this board did suggest that they would utterly obstruct the execution " of My Lord Dorchester's Instruction of 2d Sept 90, for laying out a " County Town, on the East side of the Streight, and the Proof of " that suggestion was exhibited in the same Report, stating that there " was no other unimproved Land, on that side the Streight, the whole " being settled either under the grants of the french King, or private " Purchases from the Indians, countenanced by the several command- " ing officers, and Lieutenant Governor of Detroit who had received the " Rents & Fines on such Speculations as well as upon Lands possessed " under the sanction of the French Crown."

" As to the object and use of those Reservations, this Board can " speak but negatively, having supposed the Land at the River Canard, " to be already vested in the Crown by the deed of gift of 15h May, " 1786, and having been but a short period before the said 21 May, " pressed by Mr. McKee, the agent for those Indians, to recommend " to the Governor, the Prayer of his Petition for that very Tract, " This Board can only say, that they see no good object or intended " use, in reserving a waste, in the heart of the Settlement, which must " unavoidably interrupt its communication, and must refer the com- " mittee of the Honorable Council, to Mr McKee, for the sudden cause " which rendered it so essential to the comforts of the Indians.

" For part of the Reserve at the Huron Plain, there is sufficient " obvious cause. The Hurons being practical Christians and using the " remains of their abandoned village, as retreats when they come up to " attend Divine Service at the Church built on that Reserve; but this " extends only to a Square of about 4 Acres, and in no way interferes " with the extensive plain, between the Church and the River " au Gervaise, which might afford a Scite for a County Town. Know- " ing no specific object, or intended use in those reserves (other than " occasional convenience of the Christian Hurons, which the Board " could not wish to interrupt) it is difficult for the Board to doubt the " practicability of satisfying the Hurons in any other part of the Dis- " trict, but the Board with submission to the communication from the " Honorable committee takes leave to observe, that from the Tenor " even of the last cession it does not appear that the satisfaction is to " be made to the Huron Indians; The Reserve being general, for the " use of the Indians generally, and the original proprietors of the Land " at the River Canard appearing to be the Ottawa and Chippués " Indians from their cession of that Tract to the Crown received by " the Deputy Agent, to the King's use, as we have had the honor to state " above;"

" And we submit, if the Ottawa & Chipué chiefs, who were Parties " to both Deeds, the cession of 15th May 1786 & the Reserve on 21 " May 1790, were again assembled, and the two Deeds laid before " them; they would require no additional satisfaction whatsoever for the " total derelication of the Tract at the River Canard, reserved in their " cession, unless they should represent an expected consideration for " the cession in 1786, which they did not consider as comprised in the " Presents made them in 1790."

" Should this our opinion be founded in error or upon Trial prove " abusive, we submit for the consideration of the Honorable Committee, " in its reports that the Incorporation of that tract into the District, " is highly desirable, on many accounts submitted in our Reports to the " Governor of 28th May 1790, and more particularly so to the Settlers, " on account of an extensive and deep stratum of Lime stone within " it, being the only one known in the District, besides that of Stoney " Island in possession of Mr William McComb.

" The Board would be happy to obey the commands of the Honor- " able Committee to state our Ideas of a survey of the Waste Lands " of the Crown, in their District sufficient to effectuate their Settle- " ment, at the least expence to Government, but finds itself incompe-

" tent to the task of such a statement with sufficient accuracy to guide " the judgement of others."

*C. No 2

We subjoin a sketch of the Tract for Settlement the very face of " which shews that the whole should be accurately laid down on Paper, " before a second Township from the water should any where be laid " off least the lines of the one should interfere with the other as in " Cornwall & Luneburg, pointed out in the Diagram communicated to " this Board by J. Williams Esqr. with a Transcript of the Proceedings " in Council holden at the Castle of St. Leuis on the 7th March 1790."

" There are scattered Settlements on Lake Erie & R. La Franche " from Æ to AO. and from NR to NP. on the Plan, the former " under the sanction of the Commandants of Detroit, confirmed by this " Board, the latter without any authority but Indian Grants."

" The Delays which have protracted the Settlement in this District " have been such, as we presume, to offer in excuse for the disobedi- " ence of these People. The necessity which drove them to it was " little short of self defence."

" Neither of these Ranges of Settlements leave space for the Plan " adopted in the Regulations of 17th Feby 89 but had the Board been " able to procure at first the Survey of a single Township on the " approved Plan, the same excuse would not exist for protecting the " the Settlers in their present improvements. Having promised this " much we submit as our opinion, that however great the first expence " may be, it is indispensably necessary to the future Quiet of the Set- " tlers, and for the assurance of the Royal Grant, that a survey of the " whole Tract purchased, should be before the Board, before they Issue " directions for any part of it be laid out in Townships and that no " Settler be located by the Board, without having before it, a Plan of " the Township in which he is placed. Any proceeding without such " Precaution must Subject the Board to error, the Settler to confusion " and litigation, and the Government to Reproach."

" The Surveyor General's Office can certainly best calculate the Expence " of such a Survey, from Experience of its own operations. But " we presume to offer, that if the Method required by the 10th Article " of the Rules of 17 Feby 89 should be relinquished a sufficient Sur- " vey of a Township to enable the Board to grant Locations might be " done by a single Surveyor & his Party in Ten Days; we suppose in " such a Plan, that nothing more need be done than to run the four

* Annexed to this report.

" sides marking the Road Space, between each concession and measur-
" ing off, staking out, and numbering in the usual manner the front Lots.

" Upon such a Plan of Survey, the Board could reserve the number
" of Lots in any part of it, which might by the existing or subsequent
" Regulations be required.

" The Settlers on the front concession would find the Lots from the
" Surveyor's numbers, and those on the second and others might readily
" measure them off from the Side Line, reserving the adjustment of
" their particular lines, in case of Dispute between them, to a Special
" Survey, at their own Expence; observing at the same time, as our
" opinion, but this inconvenience may be obviated at an expence of 10
" or 12 Days labour of a Deputy Surveyor and his assistants, for each
" Township, and submit upon the whole, the propriety of leaving any
" thing to be done by the Settler, towards the ascertainment of His
" Lot.

" We have the Honor to be Sir
" Your most obedient Servants
Signed { John Smith
Wm Dummer Powell
Alexr Grant."

Hugh Finlay Esqr.
Chairman of the Land Committee of the Honorable Legislative Council.

[Q 58–2, p 432]

" LETTER FROM MR. MC NIFF, DEPUTY SURVEYOR."

" Detroit 3d May 1791.

" Sir,

" I am Honored with yours of the 19h January last covering a copy
" of His Excellency Lord Dorchester's orders of the 20h October last
" to the Land Committee, since the receipt of which have been so
" busy in Survey of Lands in River La Franche as to put it hitherto
" out of my Power to make any Report on the object of that Order."

" There is not any one thing that hitherto may have impeded the
" Settling of this Country so far as may have come within my observa-
" tion that I have not transmitted below in as plain a manner as the
" nature of a cursory Investigation would permit, I will now for the

" Information of His Excellency Lord Dorchester and the Honorable " Land Committee point out these Evils in as explicit a manner as the " nature of my different Enquiries will allow."

" When it first became an object of Government to People so " important a frontier as this is, I believe every encouragement that " settlers could reasonably wish for or expect was held out; but from " the very Remote situation of this Place & its great distance from the " Seat of Government; abuses similar to those that I have seen else- " where have (I fear) taken place; particularly with respect to many " of Col. Butler's Rangers; amounting to near one hundred able young " men have left the Country in less than the space of one year owing " to His Majesty's Bounty of Provisions &c. being withheld from them; " how far this may be true is to be proved, but the men are left the " Country & I fear lost to Government.

" In the next place, the various and almost unlimited claims made " by Individuals to Tracts of Land by virtue of Indian Grants has " been a great cause of keeping this Country unsettled and will so " long as they are suffered to exist. When settlers came from the States " of America at the Instigation of Government, instead of being placed " on the Waste Lands of the Crown without delay they were told that " such and such particular Tracts of Lands as they may have pitched " upon, was the Property of Individuals by virtue of purchase made of " Indians and that the King had no Lands in this Country, the con- " sequence was that numbers of those intending to settle on the King's " Land returned again to the States*, others of them for want of " money to take back were under the necessity of purchasing Land " perhaps of those persons claiming large Tracts under Indian Titles " at the enormous price of £100, for one hundred acres of Wild Land. " In order to continue this Practice of selling Land and prevent Gov- " ernment from Settling the Country, it has been reported at Fort " Pitt through the Instigation of some Persons here, inimicable to the " Interests of Government (and perhaps principal Claimants) that all " Land in this Country was claimed by a few Individuals & that the " King had no Land here, however as government had disapproved of " such grants, it is to be hoped every obstruction to the Settlement of " the Country arising from such claims will in future cease.

" Another cause which at present greatly impedes the settling of this " Country is the present standing order of Survey for Townships situated " on navigable Rivers or Lakes; by that order of Survey, there are so

* For instance David England & other Quakers from Redstone in Pensilvania.

" many reserves made that only two Farm Lots can be granted in the " front, two in the second and twelve in the third concession, a Plan " of Survey in its nature so injurious to new settlers that none will " consent to settle in the back concession and leave so large a quan- " tity of Wood Land in their front, through which they would at a " greater expence and labour than new Settlers can bear, have to " make roads; This very great Inconvenience and obstruction to the " Settling of the Country I have above twelve months past pointed out " to the Land Board of Hesse; In my survey this Spring I laid out " four Townships, two on each side of River La Franche, in the manner " directed by said Plan of Survey, but such as have applied for Land " they will not go into the back concessions to settle while there is so " much waste and unoccupied Land in front. I did at the same time " mark the fronts of each of these Townships into such Farm Lots as " is directed by said order of Survey, so that the Land Board might " at any time grant them, when they were vested with authority " to deviate from the present order of Survey. In the Townships sur- " veyed on River La Franche I found Twenty eight Families settled " in front some with very considerable Improvements, should the pres- " ent order of Survey be carried into effect there, it will remove every " one of them from their Improvements."

" As to the Reserves of Land made at River Canard and the Huron " Church for the use of the Huron Indians and others [see my Plan of " Survey transmitted to the Surveyor General's office by last winter's " express] I have but little to say, only that I am fully pursuaded the " Reserves when made were intended for that use and no other, nor have I " as yet heard of any intention of their being applied to any other use, " but how far such reserves may or may not be injurious to the " settlement of that part of the Country the Inspector General of " Indian Affairs can best tell, as he has last summer enquired very " minutely into these matters; The Reserve at the Huron Church is of " no manner of consequence being only a barren sandy Plain; That at " River Canard is for reasons very valuable, and should a village or " Town be established in its vicinity (at Isle Bois Blanck) that reserve " will prove very Injurious to the Interests of the Inhabitants, those " already settled there* complain much of what they suffer in the loss " of Cattle and Hogs by the Indians at present settled on that Reserve; " there are but Two or Three Families who live there constantly, but " many more resort there during the Summer season for the purpose

* Caldwell, Elliot La Mothe &ca

" of raising Indian Corn & Beans; the Chief (Dewentatee) who lived " there & had the Greatest claim to those Lands died about two " months past, a circumstance which I think will be an Inducement to " the others to move from thence, The Land am of opinion might be " bought of them for a very trifling consideration and they equally as " well provided for at River Chenail Ecarté near the Entrance of River " St Clair on the North Easterly Shore of Lake St Claire, a situation " where they can have little or no intercourse with the White Inhabit- " ants; There is no land in this Country that would get Inhabited so " soon as the Reserve at River Canard was it not for the Great Resort " of Indians to that place during the Summer Season, a circumstance " ever unfavorable to New Settlers in the Vicinity of such a place."

" By my Survey of this Country sent down last Winter the Land " Committee will please to observe that all the Land fronting on the " Easterly side of the Streight is thickly inhabited from the North " Boundary of the Reserve at River Canard as far up as above Peach " Island in Lake St Clair, many of these Inhabitants have by their " Joint Petition presented to the Land Board on the 22d ult prayed " for the 2d, 3d & 4th concessions in their respective Rears, setting " forth that if they could not have this granted the want of wood & " Hay would oblige them to abandon their front Lots. In consequence " of which I did on the 25th ult, by order of the Land Board take a " cursory Survey of their respective Farms from the North Boundary " of the Reserve at River Canards upwards to near Maisonville's Mill, " and find there is little or no wood Land in that space until near the " rear of the 2d Concession, being a distance of near Eighty arpents " back from their front being formerly a plain, it seems rather hard to " cut them off from wood, but if they are put in possession of the 3d " & 4th Concessions in their Rears will not in many years be settled; " for these People with very little exception, having once obtained their " grants will clear no more land yearly than just what they require for " fuel, having more Land clear in the 1st & 2d Concessions than they " will occupy; this with the want of Public Roads will prevent English " Farmers from ever settling in the Rear of the Petitioners should their " request be granted; from River Canard upwards I do not find one " yard left for a Public Road to lead to the back Concessions each " Person passing through his own Lot. The opening of Roads at this " Place at proper distances from each other is an object that requires " immediate attention, as it may be the means of inducing English " Farmers to settle back here sooner than go a great distance up River

" La Franche, besides it will be a great means of strengthening this " frontier which at present is inhabited only by Canadians."

" I have the Honor to be with the greatest Respect
Sir
" Your most obedient and very humble Servant
" (signed) PATRICK MCNIFF
" Deputy Surveyor for the District of Hesse."

" The Honble Hugh Finlay.
[Q 58-2, p 440]

" SECOND LETTER FRON MR. MCNIFF.

" DETROIT 5th May 1791.

" SIR.

" In addition to what I have already observed on the nature of the " present order of Survey, I beg leave to suggest to the Honorable " Committee the Idea of a number of Townships in succession to be " laid out on River La Franche supposing ten in number which will " take up a space of ninety miles, according to the present order of " Survey no more than Twenty Farmers can be settled in front of that " space and they so far distant from each other as to render it impos- " sible for them to derive any security or Support from their Joint " effort in their own defence in case of their being disturbed by the " Indians who pass in great numbers up and down the River; at and " near the Sources of that River there are several villages of Delawares " and Chipawas who sometimes (generally in going up) behave dis- " orderly among the Inhabitants by killing some of their Cattle & Hogs, " but not so much latterly as when they were but few Settlers, This " Circumstance alone I think would be a sufficient Inducement to " place the Inhabitants for their mutual defence, closer on the front " than can possibly be done by that order of Survey; there is no man " living could take more pains to keep the Indians orderly than Col. " McKee the Deputy Indian Agent does, still notwithstanding when at " a distance from him they often commit things they ought not, and " they would not do were the Settlement sufficiently compact."

" I am Sir
" Your most obedt & very
" humble Servant
" [signed] P. MCNIFF Dpy Surveyor

" Hon. Hugh Finlay"
[Q 58-2, p 446]

ACCOUNT OF POSTS IN CANADA INCLUDING A SHORT DESCRIPTION OF DETROIT, MICHILIMAKINAC, MIAMIS RIVER, AND SANDUSKY.

1st Oswegatchie is the first place, on the navigable part of Lake Ontario, at the East end and on the American side, but should it be necessary there is ground on the British side, which would answer the purposes intended for the Fort and Storehouses.

2nd Oswego is next on the American side, and in my opinion is the only place of any great consequence to them, and indeed the only one that would give them any advantage over the British in the Fur Trade, as it is the leading passage from New York through the Oneyda Lake, and as there is no ground nearer than the opposite shore, which is about 40 miles across, it would not be possible to prevent British Merchants from trading with those of the American States, and carrying their Furrs to New York in preference to Quebec.

From Oswego to Niagara there are some few bays where Boats may lie in Summer, but of no great consequence.

3d Fort Niagara is the largest Fort, and of the greatest force, both with respect to guns and Barracks &c on the American Side, but the ground on the opposite shore is in my opinion equally high, and the soil better, so that every conveniency necessary for a Post could be erected on the British side, with a Carriage road as good, as that now on the American shore, and the conveniences for shipping are all, and ever were, on the British side.

4th Fort Slosser is the next on the American side, and above the Falls of Niagara, chiefly intended to protect the Provisions and merchandize which may be sent up Lake Erie. A Fort with all other conveniences may be erected on the opposite shore.

5th Fort Erie is on the British side, and at the foot of the Lake, and is as well suited for the protection of merchandize &c as appears to me to be necessary, and is near the Road where the Shipping lie.

The other shore is not in my opinion so well adaped for the above purposes.

6th The next place on the American Shore, that forms anything like a Harbour for the reception of Vessels, is Presquisle which River leads near to the branches of several others, running towards the States.

7th At the West end and towards the South side, are the Sandusky & Miamis Rivers. They lead away to the South into the States, and towards the Mississippi and many other branches of that River, and I believe is a good Country for Furs.

8th The next place on the American side is the Town & Fort of Detroit, and a settlement of some miles distance on both sides of the River, but a fort could be erected equally as commodious on the other side, as I believe there is little difference with respect to the ground. The River is about the same breadth as that of Niagara, which I consider to be nearly the distance of a musket shot.

9th Michillimakinac and the Falls of St Mary's, Lake Superior, and the Lake of the Woods, I cannot speak of with certainty, as I have never been there, but it appears to me that the line of division points them out as favourable to the Americans, as the passage into Lake Superior is on the West side, the East side being I understood rocky and almost impassable, and that most of the Furs are got to the West of these Lakes.

Endorsed:
Accot. of the Posts in Canada.
R. from Capt Schank May 31, 1790.

[Q 49–p 291.]

MEMORANDUM FROM LORD GRENVILLE.

Capt Schank & Mr. Inglis.

Present state of the Posts. Their general utility as serving to defend our Frontier.	It appears that the chief part of the Fur Trade comes from parts to the N & E. of the Boundary line.
Possibility of applying the loss of them by others to be built within the British Boundary.	The great objection seems to be to the giving up Michilimakinac w^h c^d cut off the communication with Lake Michigan.
Would not new Posts be equally advantageous for the defence of the Frontier.	If we established Posts opposite to those in question & made Portages, they wd answer the same purpose with those we now have except at Michillimakinac.

Particularly with respect to the Navigation of the Lake.

Have the Americans any vessels on the Lakes.

Can they have any while we hold the Posts.

Could they have any if we had other Posts.

Would new Posts be equally advantageous for the free trade.

What is the proportion of that trade carried on to each of the posts.

What country are the furs chiefly brought from.

The giving Oswego to the Americans puts them in possession of a port on the Lake Ontario with a communication to New York by means of the Oneyda & Mohawk Rivers. Capt Schank does not know of any other post on the American side of the lake, but he speaks doubtfully.

Endorsed: Memo. from Ld Grenville.
Opinions of Capt Schank & Mr Inglis about the Posts.

[Q 49–p 279]

MEMORANDUM FROM LORD GRENVILLE.

The principal objection wh Major Mathews seems to state to the giving up the Posts is the fear of alienating the affections of the Indians, to whom our force stationed there is a protection against the Americans.

The same purpose might however in great measure be answered by building posts within the British Boundary & maintaining there the same degree of force wh. we now have.

At Detroit there is a considerable town of about 3000 Canadians. Some compensation must be made to them in addition to the expence of removal.

Sr. Fred. Haldimand & Major Mathews both agree that the Posts, (including Niagara) are quite incapable of being defended against the Americans altho' some of them might hold out longer than the rest.

Indorsed: Memo from Ld. Grenville. Mathews' ideas about the Importance of the Posts & of the necessity of removing 3000 Canadians into Upper Country from Detroit.

[Q 49–p 300]

JOHN INGLIS TO MARK LANE.

SIR

It has been supposed that one of the grounds upon which Great Britain has held the Indian Posts in Canada—ceded to America by Treaty—Is the different acts of their Legislature militating against the Treaty, in withholding Justice from British subjects which they are intitled to under it. I apprehended every thing of that kind was done away by the influence of their new federal government, untill I met with the Georgia Gazette herewith, from which you will perceive one of the most obnoxious of these acts is in full force in that State.

Mr. Todd from Canada is ready to attend you to give information relating the Indian trade whenever you may be pleased to desire it.

I remain with the greatest respect
Sir, Your most obedient & very Hbl Servt
JOHN INGLIS.

Mark Lane 5th June 1790.

Indorsed:
Mark Lane 5 June 1790.
Mr. Inglis R the same day.
(one inclosure).

"From the Georgia Gazette" Thursday March 18th 1790.

GEORGIA

AUDITORS OFFICE 11th March 1790.

Notice is hereby given to all persons who were any wise indebted to Merchants & Subjects of the Crown of Great Britain prior to the 4th day of May 1782, that they render a due account of the same to this office without delay, the same being sequestred and confiscated, and appropriated to the use of this State by the act of the last mentioned date.

And all persons failing to render such account, together with the documents, on which it may be founded, within three months from this date, will be prosecuted against in the manner pointed out by the Act of the 10th day of February 1787.

JOHN WEREAT,
Auditor.

Extracts from the Act of the 10th February 1787.

"And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid, That it shall & may be lawful for the said Auditor, as often as there shall be occasion to call before him by subpoena or summons, and in case of contempt to issue a writ of attachment in order to compel the appearance of any person or persons who is or may be accountable before the Auditor, by virtue of this Act, or who the said Auditor may reasonably suppose is or are capable of giving evidence, or information concerning the said accounts or any of them; and the said Auditor is hereby authorized to examine upon oath, or affirmation, any person as a witness respecting any such account, which oath or affirmation the said Auditor is hereby empowered to

administer, and in case any person or persons whom such subpoena or summons shall be served, being accountable before the said Auditor, shall refuse to appear as in such writ shall be expressed and directed, or having appeared before the said Auditor, shall refuse or neglect to establish, his, her, or their account, and attend the settlement thereof, or, being summoned as a witness, shall neglect to appear before the said Auditor at the time and place appointed in and by such subpoena or summons and shall make default thereupon, or, having appeared as aforesaid shall refuse to make a full disclosure of his, her, or their knowledge in the matter depending before the said Auditor, the said Auditor may award an attachment, and commit such delinquent or delinquents to the nearest common goal, there to be holden till such person or persons shall submit to the said Auditor and comply with the directions of this Act; and all persons who shall be summoned as witnesses by the said Auditor, and every Sheriff, Coroner, or other officer, to whom he shall direct his writs or precepts as aforesaid, shall be allowed like fees for their attendance and services as witnesses summoned to appear in the Superior Courts of this State, and as Sheriffs, Coroners, and other officers are entitled to in such Courts, to be levied on the several delinquents by the Auditor, by warrant, in the like manner as debts under ten pounds are recoverable.

"And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,

That if any person or persons, by virtue of this act, are or shall be accountable before the said Auditor for any sum or sums of money which have been or may be advanced to or received by such person or persons, or for any monies, goods, chattels, or effects, which have or may come to the hands or possession of such person or persons, shall for three months after the service of such subpoenas or summons as aforesaid, for such person or persons to appear before the said Auditor, and exhibit and settle his, or her, or their accounts, as aforesaid, refuse or neglect to obey such subpoena, summons, or demand, and comply with the directions of this act, then such person and persons so refusing or neglecting shall be liable to an action of debt, or other action as the suit of the State for the whole of the sum and sums of moneys, goods, chattels, and effects, belonging to the public, which he, she, or they, ought to account for as aforesaid before the said Auditor, and shall be barred for ever of settling off any charge or expenditure thereout, unless the said Auditor before the said term of three months be expired, certify in behalf of such person, that it is reasonable that further time be allowed such person or persons for exhibiting and settling his, her, or their accounts, in which case, upon sufficient security being entered by the party or parties in whose behalf such certificate shall be made for the whole money or other property unaccountable for by such person or persons, his Honor the Governor in Council may, by an entry on their minutes allow of further time as aforesaid. Provided that nothing herein contained prevent the settlement or inspection of any publick accounts by the Committee of Finance appointed annually by the House of Assembly"

[Q 49–p 302]

LETTER FROM MAJOR R. MATHEWS RELATIVE TO GIVING UP THE POSTS OF DETROIT AND MICHILIMAKINAC.

PLYMOUTH BARRACKS 9th July '90

SIR,

I am sorry that, owing to the Review and sudden march of the 53d Regimt from Bridgenorth to this place, I should thus long have been prevented communicating to you, for Mr. Grenville's information, remarks upon the Upper Country and Posts in the Province of Quebec from reference to my notes when in that country such as they are, I have now the honor of submitting them.

In the year 87 I went from Quebec to Detroit having various instructions from Lord Dorchester, one of which was to make every possible enquiry respecting places of Embarkation and fit Posts upon the Lakes Ontario and Erie as substitutes for those at present occupied, in the event of their being given up to the United States of America—From the best information as well as from my former knowledge of the Country, I found that on Lake Ontario there is no place beyond Niagara fit for that purpose nearer to it than Toronto (about 60 miles) the shore on that side being shoal.

Detroit is situated 18 miles up the River from Lake Erie, its principal defence is a sod work hastily thrown up on the commencement of the Rebellion, it has four sides with Half Bastions, a Fraise upon the Berm, and a good stockade in the Ditch, the greatest diameter of this work is not 300 feet it commands the upper part of the Town (at the distance of 250 yards, but the other part situated upon a slope to the River, is not seen from it—there are about 22 nine & six Pounders mounted here, with Barracks, Stores &c. proportioned to its size, it is connected with the Town by a strong stockade flanked by wooden Block Houses, all which form a good defence against musketry, or any sudden attack. Should this Post be given up, and another taken, the most convenient place will be at the entrance of the River upon a point at present occupied by some officers and men who served the war as Rangers with the Indians—the channel for ships runs between this Point and Isle aux Bois blanc, which should be also fortified, the distance from each to mid channel about 200 yards—There is a fine settlement running 20 miles from this Point on the north side of the Lake.

The next and last Post on the communication is Michilimakinack, at the farther end of Lake Huron, situated upon an Island about nine miles from the main—The works here never were finished, and its insular situation is its chief defence—this is the great resort of the Fur Traders, fitting out for the N. W. Trade—and the centre of a very considerable one in that vast country to the Mississippi—for this Post no good one, I am inclined to think, can be substituted nearer than the Falls of St Mary, very many leagues from thence, *that* might answer for the N. West Trade as the Furs are brought from thence down the Grand or Otawa River directly to Montreal, leaving the lakes to the Westward—but the loss of Mackina will entirely sever from us the Western Trade above mentioned, which is carried on by the Lakes, the greatest part of which, there can be little doubt, will pass by the Oswego River into the United States, and the N. West Trade, or a part of it, must ultimately be drawn that way also from the same cause.

Without Posts of strength in that Country it cannot be expected that much of the Trade will remain with us, and how far it may be preserved by forming Posts in lieu of those we now occupy is, I think very problematical. The Indians have, ever since the Peace, dreaded the relinquishing the Posts, and will assuredly take the alarm whenever it happens, after which, their Friendship can, of course, no longer be depended upon.

I have the honor to be
With great ésteem Sir
Your most obedient and most humble Servant,
R. MATHEWS.

I have annexed an Abstract of the Peltries from the N. West, & Michilimakinac & Dependencies, I think of the year 88 on which you may depend.

[Q 49–p 309]

Mackina & Dependencies.

487 Virginia Foxes	737 North Bears
213 Red Do	886 South Do
760 Fishers	365 Damaged Do
33,576 Deer	552 Assorted Cubs
15,475 Martins	1,339 Nators

12,000	South Beaver	25,561	Raccoons
4,693	Otters	13,000	North Beaver
1,808	Fishers	570	Buffalo Robes
3,078	Mink	300	Loups Cervies
637	Smoked Leather	150	lb Castorium
8,156	Musk Rats		

N.' West.

24,495	Beaver Skins	7,049	Cased Wolves
27,536	Fine Do	320	Bears
2,494	Cats	56	Cubs
2,095	Otters	724	Muskrats
333	Wolveriens	978	Dressed Skins
10,856	Martins	525	Fishers
798	Minks	319	Buffalo Robes
731	Large Foxes	20	Caraboo Skins
887	Small do	738	Deer
5,674	Open Wolves		

N. B. The Post of Nipagon not included, the produce of which sold in Canada for £4000 Half Currency.

Indorsed: Plymouth 9th July 1790
MAJOR MATHEWS R. 13th.

[Q 49–p 317]

GOV. A. ST. CLAIR TO THE CHIEFS AND WARRIORS OF THE SENECA NATION

MY SONS,

When we last smoked the Calumet together at Muskingum, and closed the league of perpetual Friendship between the United States and the Seneca Nations we promised mutually to give each other notice if any mischief was likely to happen to either, since that time there has been a great deal of mischief done to the People of the United States upon the Ohio River, but as it was a great way down the River and committed by Nations who live far distant from you, we presume you did not know of it, otherwise you would have given us warning.

My Sons,

The United States have not changed in their affection for the Senecas they hold fast the Chain of Friendship and will keep it bright and clean and it is a proof of their good disposition that I now send you this message to inform you, that something is going forward here, which if it was not explained might give you uneasiness. I know you will hear that a Campaign is going forward, and some foolish people who see the movements, may tell you that it is designed against you. French Molly was lately here, and I have heard went away much frightened and may carry bad reports. If she says that we are going to do harm to any of Your nation, do not believe her, we will do you no harm.

My Sons,

You may remember that at the Treaty you told us, that should the Shawanese continue to be troublesome, we must whip them; they have been very troublesome, and it has been borne with, as long as it was possible. We are going to whip the Shawanese, and some others, who are joined with them, but not a man shall disturb you, I told you we loved Peace, tho' we were not afraid of war, last Spring Peace was offered to those very nations, notwithstanding all the mischief they had done, but they would not accept the offer. They have now forced us to war, and they shall have enough of it, but we will keep far from Your Borders, where you may sit in safety in the light of the Great Fire which we kindled together and shall always be kept burning, and the ground swept clean about it so long as you hold fast your end of the chain that ties us together.

My Sons,

I send you no wampum with this message, because you told me you would speak no more upon Wampum, but I shew you my heart in the sincerity of it, and the words of truth are upon my Lips.

I am Your assured Friend

(signed) Ar. St. Clair

Governor of the Territory of the United States

North West of the Ohio.

To the Chiefs & Warriors of the Seneca Nation

September 8th 1790 Pittsburg

(signed) A Gordon

Lieut Col.

Indorsed: 1 In Lord Dorchester's to Mr. Grenville No 74 of 10th Nov. 1790. D.

Q 49, p 102]

13

GOV. A. ST. CLAIR TO THE CHIEFS AND WARRIORS OF THE WYANDOT NATION.

To the Chiefs and Warriors of the Wyandot Nation.

BROTHERS,

When we parted last at Muskingum you promised to send to the Shawanese and Miamis and advise them to Peace, and told us if they would not hearken to you, that we must whip them.

BROTHERS,

Ever since I saw you I have been trying to accomplish the good work of Peace with all nations but the Shawanese and Miamis are entirely foolish and fully set to do evil.

BROTHERS,

We declared to each other that we would have but one heart and one mind, and would inform each other of everything that was going forward.

The United States my brothers have not changed their sentiments towards the Wyandots, they love them because like themselves they love peace and are not afraid of war.

BROTHERS,

The Shawanese must be whiped they have at last carried their mischiefs so far that the United States can bear them no longer. Be not afraid then, when you hear of Armies marching, nor suppose that they are designed to do you any injury, they are not, they will do no harm to any that hold fast the chain of Friendship one end of that chain is in the hands of the Wyandots and the other in those of the United States, keep fast hold of your end and they will not let theirs go and between us we will keep it bright and clean and it will be a safe guard and a defence to you by night and day against ever harm.

Remember that I hold you Brothers if we were obliged to whip the Shawanese it would come upon them like a consuming fire, and the sparks might burn yourselves if you were not careful to prevent them. Take care then and keep your young men at Home let them not go near the Shawanese least evil come upon you both, trust to what I say to you, I do not speak with a double tongue, but tell you the truth from the bottom of my heart, if you hold fast the chain of friendship in truth and sincerity the United States will keep mischief far from your Borders.

The Gentleman who will deliver you this message carries a letter from me to the Commanding officer at Detroit make the path strait before him and bring him on his way.

I am Brothers
Your assured Friend
(signed)
ARTHUR ST CLAIR
Governor of the Territory of the United States
North West of the Ohio.

A String of White Wampum

Muskingum
19th Seprt. 1790.

Indorsed: 6. In Lord Dorchester to Mr. Grenville No 74 of the 10th Novr 1790.

[Q 49–p 113]

GOV. A. ST. CLAIR TO THE OFFICER COMMANDING AT DETROIT.

To Major Murray or the officer commandg. the Troops of His Britanic Majesty at Detroit

MARIETTA Septem. 19th 1790

SIR,

As it is not improbable that an account of the Military preparations going forward in this quarter of the Country may reach you, and give you some uneasiness, while the object to which they are to be directed is not perfectly known to you, I am commanded by the President of the United States to give you the fullest assurances of the peaceful disposition entertained towards Great Britain, and all her possessions, and to inform you explicitly, that the expedition about to be undertaken, is not intended against the Post you have the honor to command, nor any other place at present in the possession of the Troops of His Britanic Majesty, but it is on foot, with the sole design of chastising and humbling some of the Savage tribes, whose depredations are become intolerable, and whose cruelties are an outrage not on the People of America only, but on humanity; which I do now in the most unequivocable manner! after this candid explanation. Sir, there is every reason to expect both from your own personal character and the regard you have for that of your nation that those tribes will meet with neither countenance or assistance from any under your command, and that you will do what in your power lies to restrain the

trading people from whose instigations there is too good reason to believe many of the Injuries committed by the Savages have proceeded.

I have chosen, Sir, to forward this letter by a private gentleman* in preference to an officer, by whom a communication of this kind might have been expected that every suspicion of the purity of the views of the United States might be obviated, and have the honor to be, Sir, Your most obedient and

very humble Servant

(Signed)

AR ST CLAIR

Governor of the territory of the United States North West of the River Ohio D.

A true copy

(Signed) JOHN SMITH
Major 5th Regt

(Sigd) A. GORDON
Lieut Colonel

Indorsed 2,
In Lord Dorchester's
to Mr. Grenville No 74
of the 10th Novr 1790.

[Q 49–p 105]

GOV. A. ST. CLAIR TO THE CHIEFS AND WARRIORS OF THE OTTAWA NATIONS.

To the Chiefs and Warriors of the Ottawas Nations.

BROTHERS,

At a treaty I held with you and a great many other nations at Muskingum where you took hold of the claim of Friendship which the United States presented to you, and wished to have put into the hands of all nations, we mutually promised each other to keep the Fire kindled, burning bright and clear, and the ground swept clean about it, that all nations might see the right of it and be glad, and sit down round it and smoke the Pipe of Friendship in peace and comfort.

BROTHERS,

We likewise promised each other to give notice if anything extraordinary was doing, that there might be neither fears nor jealousies nor Heart burnings between us.

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*Mr Meigs.

BROTHERS,

When we lighted that great fire at Muskingum, the light of which shines up to the Heavens, and is seen to a very great distance round, it was intended to be a Fire that should comfort all the nations, and that the United States and them (who have both sprung from the same ground) might have sat round it together in Peace, relieving each other, and giving and receiving all the pleasures of Brotherly affection, but there were several foolish nations who would not come and warm themselves at it altho' they were asked to do it.

BROTHERS,

Listen to my words, I told you truth when I said the United States loved peace. I told you truth likewise when I said they were not afraid of war.

BROTHERS,

They love peace because they know it to be best for all mankind, and that the Great Spirit, the Creator of us all, is displeased with his children when they destroy one another.

They were at peace with all their white brethren and they wished to extend that blessing to their red Brothers likewise, but these foolish nations would not listen to them, they have continually been doing mischief since, and have carried it to such height that it can no longer be borne, perhaps because it has been borne so long they thought the United States were afraid but they will find the difference between a forbearance that arose love and a desire to prevent the shedding of Brother's blood, and what arises from fear.

BROTHERS,

The Army that is now going into the Country will avenge the Injuries those foolish Nations, who would not listen to the voice of Peace, have done to the United States, they have obliged them to do it, and must take the consequences.

But the sentiments of the United States are not changed towards the Ottawas—they hold fast the Chain of Friendship which binds them to each other, and will hold it fast as long as the sun and moon shall endure, if the Ottawas will do so likewise.

BROTHERS,

The armies of the United States will do no harm to you, on the contrary they will do you good if they have the opportunity; take care then my friends and keep yourselves at a distance from the Shawanese and those other foolish Nations who are joined to them. Keep your young men at home until the Storm is blown over, least

evil should befall them. The United States would be very sorry that in executing a just Vengeance upon their enemies the hair of a single Ottawa should be hurt, for they consider the Nation as one of themselves and every man of it as a brother.

Brothers,

I have sent you this Message to inform you honestly and candidly of the design with which this army is marching, to remove all doubts from your mind, to set your Hearts at rest, and to assure you that the United States hate and despise all double dealing, that they are equally well disposed to the Chipawas, Potawatamies and all the other nations who took hold of the Chain of Friendship with the Ottawas

(signed)

Ar. St Clair
Governor of the Territory of the United
States Northwest of the Ohio.

Dated at Fort Washington the 7th
day of October 1790.

A String of White Wampum

D.

Indorsed 43.
In Lord Dorchesters to Lord Grenville No 84 of the 14th June 1791.

[Q 50–1, page 235.]

MAJOR JOHN SMITH TO GOV. A. ST. CLAIR.

Detroit 14th October 1790.

Major Smith to Governor St Clair.

Sir

I have had the honor of your polite letter of 19th September by Mr. Meigs, who arrived at this Post last night, which I shall communicate, without loss of time to His Excellency Lord Dorchester.

I have only to observe that the military preparations carrying on by the United States have not been the occasion of any uneasiness at this post, nor have the Tribes of Indians met with either countenance, or assistance from this quarter (nor do I believe any other) in making depredations or committing outrages, on the subjects of the United States. The Traders so far from instigating the cruelties complained

of, having in many instances saved the lives and preserved the Liberty of the People of America, and the measures taken to release a party of Pensylvanians from the Saguina nation, and the steps pursued to send them safe home, will sufficiently shew how much this government is disposed to treat its neighbours with kindness and friendship, as I act here under authority, I have only to add, Sir,

that I have the honor &c

A true copy
(signed)
JOHN SMITH
Major 5th Regt
D.

Indorsed: 3
In Lord Dorchesters to Mr Grenville No 74 of the 10th Novr 1790

[Q 49–p 107]

LETTER FROM MAJOR JOHN SMITH RELATIVE TO ACTIONS NEAR DETROIT.

Extracts

GLAIZE 16th October 1790.

Mr Sharp states in a letter to Mr. Leith, that his houses, corn &c were consumed in the general conflagration. That the Indians burned not only the houses of the traders, but even their own.

That they are collecting from all quarters and are determined to make an attempt to cut them off; that they may succeed, but he fears they will not be strong enough.

That the Indians have obliged them (the Traders) to furnish them with powder and ball—that some of the Traders cattle have been killed by the Indians, and concludes with saying, it is astonishing with what spirit and alacrity the Indians at this place, prepare to go to the assistance of their friends.

JOHN SMITH
Major 5th Regt

Q 50–1, p 28]

EXTRACT OF LETTER FROM COMMANDING OFFICER AT DETROIT.

Extract of a Letter from the Commanding officer at Detroit dated 16th October 1790.

" The Merchants of this place having expressed great anxiety concerning the transactions going on in the Miamis quarter and the safety of their property there, I yesterday thought it my duty to state to them the heads of the information I had received that they might take such steps for the security of the British property, on those communications, as they thought most advisable, for it has been hinted that the Americans would consider such merchandise as fair plunder, conceiving the proprietors to have instigated many of the cruelties, committed on their settlers, but which I do confidently believe to be in general the reverse, and have repeatedly heard of their interference to save the lives and Liberty of the subjects of the United States, and tho' the property even escapes this, it runs another risk for 'tis said I believe with reason that the Indians will oblige the Settlers among them to join their party and make use of their property as they shall see fit.

" How far the loss of the Miamis Country, to the protection of His Majesty, will affect this Post and its trade, is a matter it would be presumptive in me to comment on, I think it however my duty to observe, that it is a considerable Mart of Indian Commerce, centering in this place.

D.

Indorsed: 4
In Lord Dorchesters to Mr Grenville No 74 of the 10th Nov. 1790

[Q 49–p 109]

EXTRACT FROM PRIVATE LETTER FROM DETROIT.

Extract of a private letter from Detroit dated 17th October 1790.

" I have long foreseen that the Settlers on the Ohio would find themselves necessitated to take post in divers parts of the Indian Country to cover their improvements from the Inroads and depredations of the Indians, but I had no idea they would be so imprudent as to fix themselves at first so far from support as are the Miamis Towns.

" This step has however been adopted and the certain consequence is the entire ruin of the trade of this Post for one year since, whether

" the Indians make peace or not the season for the Hunt will be " passed either in war or negotiation.

" They are very inveterate against the Americans and have exerted " themselves to make an effectual stand. It is supposed they will be " able to assemble from the tribes three or four thousand the Wyan- " dots and Delawares seem inclined to remain neuter. The Americans " under the command of Colonel Harmar consist of about three thousand " men, of whom near one third continentals, the remainder draughts from " the militia and volunteers from Kentucky chiefly mounted. They " bring with them materials for intrenching and defending a post. They " quit the Ohio at Pipe Creek and cross the country to the Miamis " Towns.

" It can do no harm to say that the Muskingum Settlements (as My " Lord Dorchester may be better informed) from whence this expedition " puts forth is composed of disconnected Continental Soldiers and offi- " cers who were attached to the United States by no other Tye but " personal regard for the President, considering themselves as sacrificed " by Congress and defrauded even in the sale of the lands they occupy. " This sentiment towards the Government of the old States is I think " the cause of an extreme tenderness towards the British Government " which affects to attribute to the Traders only that encouragement " and supply of ammunition to the Indians, which I believe they in " reality attribute to authority.

D.

Indorsed: 7

In Lord Dorchester to Mr. Grenville No 74 of the 10th Novr. 1790.

[Q. 49–p 116]

GEO. SHARP TO COL. A. MC KEE, RELATIVE TO ACTIONS NEAR DETROIT.

GLAIZE, 17th October 1790

SIR,

The American Army slept nine leagues from the Miamis on the night of the 14th Current.

I left the Miamis the 15th—people in general had then saved a considerable part of their property, but the village was burned to ashes, by the Indians, lest it should afford shelter to their enemies.

We understand that they had left their cattle behind them, and it is not certain, that they have any cannon; we cannot even guess at

their number; but from the best accounts, it cannot be less than two thousand.

Messrs. Kenzie and Lacelle, were to remain in the environs of the Miamis 4 days at least after my departure, and promised to send me every intelligence of consequence to this place, which I shall forward to you. I remain here to forward my perroque* to Rochedebout.

Mr. Godfroy going to Detroit, and being well informed of every circumstance relative to our situation, it is needless for me to trouble you any further on this subject.

(Signed)

GEO: SHARP

To

COLONEL MCKEE

[Q 50-1, p 27]

COL. A. MC KEE TO SIR JOHN JOHNSON.

MOUTH OF DETROIT RIVER
Octr. 18th 1790

SIR

Having heretofore sent you every information worth notice during my stay at the foot of the Rapids Miamis, am now to inform you that I left that place yesterday and arrived here last night, the evening before I left the Runners from the different villages came in with an account that a powerful army was discovered on their march towards the Miamis Towns, and that the Indians had removed their women & Children, they were advanced on the 11th Inst within 30 Leagues of the Indian Villages, so that before this time no doubt they will be about taking Post there, the consequence of which to this place is obvious, the Indians of that neighbourhood are too few to make much opposition, however I understand they are determined to attempt it and have asked the assistance of other Nations, who seem to be too far dispersed to be able to collect in a short time, I shall send Captain Elliott off to day to watch their progress.

I have also received a confirmation of the intelligence I gave you yesterday respecting the Spaniards, from an old Delaware Chief lately returned from the Southward, who says he was in Council with them at Pensacola, when speeches were delivered to the Indians notifying a war between the English and them and engaging them on the part of the Spaniards, these speeches he further tells me has been forwarded

*A small boat.

to the Mississippi, and I am surprised they have not reached Michilimakinac before this from that quarter—the vessel which I met here being just about to sail leaves me time only to assure you that I am with the greatest Respect &c

Your obedient Servant
signed
A. McKee

P. S. I forward a copy of the Speeches received by the Indians & sent to me.

Sir John Johnson

Indorsed: 5
In Lord Dorchester's to Mr Grenville No 74 of the 10th Novemr 1790

[Q 49–p 111]

LETTER FROM MAJOR JOHN SMITH RELATIVE TO ACTION OF INDIANS.

Detroit 19th October 1790.

Mr. Godfroy says, he believes the collected Indians to be under a Thousand; that upwards of a thousand bushels of corn was burnt in the town—that he has brought Symbols to all the neighbouring Indian nations—that the Indians allowed the Traders to retire with the bulk of their goods and assisted them; and that the Gri Chief, particularly recommended it to them—that one Indian Spy or Courier, watching the movements of the Americans had been killed.

(signed) John Smith
Major 5th Regt.
D.

Indorsed: 1
In Lord Dorchester's to Mr Grenville No 79 of the 23d January 1791.

[Q 50–1, p 28]

MAJOR JOHN SMITH TO CAPT. LE MAISTRE.

Dettoit 20th October 1790.

Sir,

I have the honor to acquaint you for the Informaton of His Excellency the Governor, that Mr. Godfroy arrived here yesterday, with the disagreeable intelligence of the burning of the Miamis Town, which has been done by the Indians, that it might not afford any shelter to

their Enemies. The Traders have saved most of their moveable goods, their corn has for the most part suffered in the fire, and they have been forced to give their powder and ball to the Indians.

Colonel McKee arrived this morning, and brings copies of the speeches delivered by Mr. Meigs at Sandusky.

From the general report, there is reason to believe the Spaniards have beem tampering with the Indians on the Mississippi, particularly the Pottawautamys; and belts have, I understand, been sent from the Spaniards (at a large Council to the Southward) to all the nations hereabouts, declaring their intentions of going to war with Great Britain.

Tis said the present intention of the Indians, is to attack the American guard with their cattle, in the night, that by throwing them into confusion, they may scatter and be easily killed, for which purpose a number of bows and arrows are preparing.

I have the honor to be
Your most obedient servant
(signed)
JOHN SMITH
Major 5th Regt

Captain Le Maistre
Military Secretary

D.

Indorsed: 2
In Lord Dorchester's to Mr. Grenville No 79 of the 25th January 1790

[Q 50–1, p 30]

CAPT. MATHEW ELLIOTT TO COL. A. MCKEE.

SIR,

I arrived here the third day after I left you about twelve o'clock. Last night two Delawares arrived express from the Miamis, they bring intelligence of a Skirmish between the Indians and Americans on the 20th current, a thousand of the Light Horsemen, thought to take them by surprise, but they were so warmly received by a Party of the Shawanese and Potowatomies, that they were obliged to retreat with the loss of three hundred men killed on the spot, the Indians lost only one man. There was only one Prisoner taken, who told them that the American Army consisted of two thousand five hundred men, that they had cannon and ordnance stores, and that they meant to make

an attempt on Detroit next Spring. This express brought two scalps, one for their friends here and another for Capt Pipe, and the Hurons, with a very smart message to him.

The Indians are a thousand strong, but the Sacks and Foxes have forbid them to attack the Americans until their arrival. The Indians were all in the highest spirits, and very confident of success.

I proceed this day about forty miles up the River, to hasten the Traders to secure their property, and to collect more intelligence with Messrs Sharp and McDonald, I shall expect to see you soon.

I remain Sir &c
(Signed)
M. Elliot

Grand Glaize
23d October 1790

P. S. It is confidently reported that one Indian killed Thirty Americans in the late Action of the 20th

Montreal 29th November 1790

Col. McKee

Indorsed: Capt Elliot's letter
to Col. McKee
In Lord Dorchester's to Mr. Grenville No 79 of the 23d Jany 1791.

[Q 50–1, p 33]

MINUTES OF A COMMITTEE ON TRADE WITH THE WESTERN COUNTRY.

Tuesday 5th April 1791.

At the Council Chamber in the Bishops Palace
Present
The Honorable Major General Clarke Lt. Govr.
The Honorable William Smith Esqr. Chief Justice & the Honorable

Thomas Dunn	William Grant
Edward Harrison	Paul Roc De St Ours
John Collins	Francis Baby
Adam Mabane	Joseph De Longueüil
J. G. C. De Lery	Samuel Holland
Geerge Pownall	Charles de Lanaudiere
Picotté De Belestre	R. A. De Boucherville
Henry Caldwell	Le Cte Dupie

Esquires

Navigation Bill

Mr. Grant from the Committee charged to wait on His Excellency the Governor with a Transcript of the Bill passed last Saturday intitled, "An Act to explain the act intitled "An Act "or Ordinance for promoting the Inland Navigation and to promote "the Trade to the Western Country" reports that the Committee have "waited on His Lordship therewith pursuant to the order of the "Council.

Colonel Caldwell read in his place his dissent from the vote of the Council of Saturday last for passing the Navigation Bill in the following words vizt.

"Mr. Caldwell's dissent from the majority of the Council on Mr. "Mabane's motion for striking out the 5th Art. of the Ordinance for "promoting the Inland Navigation &c.

"Because that article is contrary to the King's Instructions to every "Governor of the Province since the Conquest, which instructions "appear to me wise and Politick, and ought more particularly to be "enforced since the independence of the United States.

"Because the merchants trading to the Western Country in their "representations seem to complain more of the expence attending the "taking out of Licences than of the restrictions those licences lay them "under, and which licences being directed by the King's Instructions "to be given without fee or reward, the fees might be moderated by "the legislature, for other grievances, formerly complained of, respecting Passes, seem to have been done away, by the regulations made and "orders given by the Commanders in Chief since the Peace.

"Because the regulations expressed in the Licences and the submission to them secured by the Bond given when the licence is granted, "seem to me absolutely necessary, as well to prevent irregularities in "that Trade, which might occasion disputes with the Indians, as to "prevent the Furs proceeding from that Trade, being carried out of "the Province, independent of the bad consequences that might result "from disaffected People, under the Idea of Trade getting from this "Province into the Indian Country, debauching and alienating from us "the affections of the Natives, holding Councils with them and exchanging Belts of Wampum, which hitherto has been prohibited, except to "the Kings Superintendant of Indian Affairs & those in his Department.

"Because the Powers given to the Commander in Chief by this Law "to regulate the Indian Trade when he may Judge it necessary are "done away, as the Persons who ought to conform to such regulations "will not be under any bond to conform thereto.

" Because the exemption from taking out Licences is partial extending " to the Western Country only, where, in my opinion, such exemptions " are dangerous to the Publick Safety, and not given to other of His " Majesty's Subjects (equally entitled to a free commerce) who trade " from the other parts of the Province, and where such exemptions " might in my opinion be given consistent with the public safety."

(signed)

HENRY CALDWELL.

[Q 50-2, p 378]

Memorial of Montreal Merchants.

" SIR

" In consequence of the conversation we had with you, on the sub- " ject of the Bill in contemplation for amendment of the ordinance " respecting the Inland Commerce and Navigation of this Province, we " have taken the same into serious consideration, and beg leave to sub- " mit to You as Chairman of the Committee our sentiments thereupon. " The first principle of Commerce is, that it be free and unfettered, " and while the Merchant is pursuing his Traffic without contravening " the Laws of his Country he ought to be encouraged. Under this " idea we conceive little or no regulation of the Interior Commerce " necessary and that little should be placed in hands not liable to be " warped, or that might apply it to partial and Corrupt Purposes.

" The first amendment in our opinion necessary, is, that the Ordi- " nance of 1777 respecting the sale of Spirituous Liquors to Indians & " Passes to their Country be repealed. If the first is restrained, it " will transfer the Trade to the Americans and Spaniards, because it " is well known that the Savages will have Liquors somewhere, and if " they cannot get them from us, they will go where such restrictions " are unknown, and buy them, also the other articles of manufacture " applicable to their wants. Passes we conceive not necessary at all, " but if they will not be dispensed with, we beg that the power of " granting them may not be placed in any hand inferior to that of the " Governor or Commander in Chief for the time being, that they be " simple, given to every British Subject indiscriminately and no Inter- " ference whatever of any military or other officer in the Upper " Districts permitted after they are given. The rate is too high and

" ought to be reduced. If an abuse can be supposed possible, it is " easy to be remedied the succeeding Session of the Legislature after " it actually shall happen. The Merchants in Montreal on obtaining " them should be considered as primary, and those in the Upper " Country whom they supply, their secondary Agents in the Trade, so " that no new pass can be at all necessary there. The goods used in this " Trade are legally imported into the Province, and we conceive " Entries or Details of them at any Post, or on shipment on Board " any Inland Vessel, as useless, oppressive and impossible to be com- " plied with. The Idea of Ilicit Trade at any Place above Montreal is " impracticable, there is not a wish of any Person in the Business to " pursue it, on the contrary many Peltries are brought in at great " expense from the Frontiers of the States, and surely it is absurd to " suppose that they would send them back by the Lakes and Rivers " at still greater—but were that otherwise, it is impossible to be " done, while Oswego is garrisoned by us, and the Preventive officer " there does his duty. Private navigation has now subsisted two years, " with benefit to the Commerce, and no inconvenience or danger have " resulted from it to Government. The Return in Furrs have come as " safely to Montreal as before, and may continue to do so, untill that " by some ill judged and speculative regulations we throw a decided " advantage in the way of our opponents. We are Rivals to the " Americans in that Trade from principle and Interest and we ought " to beware of restraining the exertion and Competition of our own " subjects in a traffic so beneficial to the Mother Country and this " Province. The fees allowed for entering and clearing Inland Vessels " under the present system are burthensome to the Trade, and, from " the frequency of their voyages, become in the course of a season, " more materially so. Deeply interested as we are in the Commerce of " the Upper Country, it cannot be supposed we would suggest any- " thing but what from experience and conviction we think would be " of utility to it, and equally safe to His Majesty's Government. From " the Pains you have taken to obtain information, for which we are " very thankful, we cannot entertain a doubt, but that the Legislature " will now frame an Ordinance upon plain, simple and commercial " principles doing away the former Bills, except in as much as relates " to the Registry of private vessels, and these being owned, and navi- " gated only by British Subjects, and adopting in their stead what is

" applicable to the Representations from Montreal, Niagara and Detroit
" upon the subject which coincide with our present opinions.

" We have the Honor to be

" Your most obedient Servants

26th October 1790

[Signed]
PHYN ELLICE & Co
FORSYTH RICHARDSON & Co
McTAVISH FROBISHER & Co
JOHN & ANDREW McGILL
WILLIAM ROBERTSON
DOBIE & BADGLY
A. AULDJO

[Q 51-1, p 77]

Draft of a Bill to Regulate Trade.

" The Chairman then laid before the Committee the draft of a Bill
" to amend the Navigation Act and to correct the restraints com-
" plained of by the Merchants Trading to the Western Countries, in
" the words following.

" An Act to explain and amend the Act entitled An act or ordi-
" nance for promoting the Inland Navigation, and to promote the Trade
" to the Western Country.

" Whereas it is expedient to the prosperity of the Commerce which
" it was the Intention of the said Ordinance to encourage that it be
" unclogged with any unnecessary impediments 1st. Be it therefore
" enacted by His Excellency the Governor and the Legislative Coun-
" cil, and it is hereby enacted by the Authority of the same, That the
" Oath to the Manifest of the Cargo of such Vessels trading to
" the Western Countries which by the said Act are required to have
" Registers, shall suffice, as to such articles, as are not shipped upon
" the Private account of the Chief Navigator, if he shall swear that
" the Quantities and Qualities are in his manifest stated according to
" His Bills of Lading, and that the manifest doth express the whole
" thereof according to the best of his knowledge and belief, and like-
" wise every article of Trade on his private Account, or on account of
" any person whatsoever.

" 2nd. Be it further enacted by the same authority, that as often as
" the vessel may be seized for not being documented, as by the said

" Act is required, it shall not expose to confiscation either the vessel " or her apparel and furniture, or the property therein of any of the " Shippers not being privy thereto or concerned therein, provided they " shall respectively be His Majesty's good and faithful subjects residing " within His Dominions.

" 3rd. But for the prevention of Frauds in the Navigation and Com- " merce aforesaid, be it further enacted by the same authority, that as " often as any vessel shall be found sailing from any Port of His " Majesty's Territories on the Lakes not documented as by Law directed, " the Captain or Chief Navigator shall not only be answerable to all " and every person and persons who may receive loss and Damage " thereby, but shall incurr a penalty of Five Hundred Pounds to His " Majesty to be sued for and recovered in any Court of Justice within " this Province; one third of which forfeiture shall belong to the per- " son or persons suing for the same. And for the more secure recov- " ery thereof, such Captain or Chief Navigator shall be detained and " imprisoned until he shall have entered into recognizance in double " the said Penalty with two sufficient sureties, in the judgement of one " of the Judges of the Common Pleas of the District of the Port, " Post, or Place to which he may be brought personally to appear in " the Court of King's Bench within one year from the date of such " Recognizance, there to answer to any suit to be brought against him " for the said Penalty, and to abide the Judgement of the said Court.

" 4th. And be it also enacted by the same authority that whenever " the Court before which any proceedings may be had for any such " Seizure or Penalty, shall give judgement for the acquittal of the " Property seized, or the Discharge of the Party prosecuted, but shall " at the same time cause to be entered in the Minutes of the Court " that the Prosecutor had reasonable cause for making the seizure or " commencing the same suit, the owner or Defendant shall not recover " any Damages or costs against any persons concerned in such seizure " or Prosecution.

" 5th. And to the end that the Trade to the Western Districts and " Indian Countries may be free and open to all His Majesty's faithful " subjects in every part of His Majesty's subjects carrying on Trade, or " other stated residents of this Province, to take out any where or from " any Person or Persons any Licence, Pass, Permit or other writing " whatsoever for going into or Trading with the Indians or other Inhab- " itants of the Western Countries, Districts or Counties of this Province " or Territories whatsoever; or for the carrying or conveying thither or " elsewhere in Boats, Battoes or Canoes any goods, Wares or Merchan-

" dize or Provisions or other effects not specifically prohibited or for " returning with the same or any part thereof or with the produce in " Bever Furs or Skins or such other effects as may be legally carried " transported or imported nor to take out any Licence for the sale of " Strong Liquors to the Indians or other Persons other than such " Licence as is required by an Act of Parliament passed in the four- " teenth year of His Majesty's Reign intitled "An Act to establish a " fund towards further defraying the charges of the administration of " Justice, and support of the Civil Government, within the Province of " Quebec in America" any law ordinance or regulation of this Province " heretofore made or passed to the contrary notwithstanding Provided " always nevertheless and be it enacted by the same authority that it " shall and may be lawfull for His Excellency The Governor or Com- " mander in Chief for the time being by and with the advice and con- " sent of His Majesty's Council, to restrain the Trade and Commerce to " any Part or Place of the said Western Countries and Inland Terri- " tories and regulate the case with any of the Indian Tribes or Nations " or other Inhabitants thereof, and likewise to restrain and regulate the " sale & distribution of Spirituous Liquors in all Forts and Garrisons " and other places where Indians resort, and of arms, ammunition " and other warlike or naval stores, when and so often as the public " safety and peace may require, declaring the same from time to time " by proclamation under the Great Seal.

" 6th. And in order to prevent the Accidents that happen to Canoes, " the property therein, and the navigators thereof, in the Dangerous " Passage down the Rapids of the Outawais or Great River, between " the Lower Carrying Place of the Chaudiere and the Allumets, by " reasons of persons selling Spirituous Liquors to the Canoe men thereby " intoxicating them and rendering them incapable to conduct and man- " age the canoes in the said Rapids, to the Great Injury of the Trade " and the Risk of the lives of the Navigators, Be it enacted by the " authority aforesaid, that every person who shall be convicted before " any one or more Justices of the Peace upon the oath of the Informer " and one more Credible witness, of having sold or given any Spirituous " Liquors to any Canoe man in his passage down the Outawais or Great " River, between the lower Carrying Place of the Chaudiere and the " Place called the Allumets, shall forfeit and pay the sum of Twenty " Pounds and lose the Benefit of his Licence if any he has for selling " Spirituous Liquors which penalty may be sued and recovered summa- " rily before one or more Justices of the Peace and applied as aforesaid.

" 7th. And whereas it is made Penal to settle in the Indian Villages " without Licence by an Act or Ordinance of this Province passed in the " seventeenth year of His Majesty's Reign, entitled an Ordinance to " prevent the selling of strong Liquors to Indians in the Province of " Quebec, as also to deter persons from buying their Arms or cloath- " ing, and for other purposes relative to the Trade and Intercourse " with the said Indians."

" Be it further enacted by the same authority that nothing in the " said Act shall be deemed to affect such as are lawfully employed in " the Inland Commerce or such as resort to this Province with the " Intention bona fide of settling the waste Lands of the Crown, " and who are in the course to conform to the regulations by the " Government for that purpose made and established, and shall so " declare upon oath when thereunto required, or to any other His " Majesty's Liege Subjects; but to such only as not being His Majesty's " Subjects shall arrive at any Port Post or Place where any magistrate " may reside and shall not within twenty-four hours thereafter take the " oath of allegiance to the British Crown being required and shall " refuse to take the oath in this clause first aforementioned, such " Defaulter shall incur a penalty of Ten Pounds, and may be com- " mitted and proceeded against as concerned in Illicit Trade.

" Provided always nevertheless that it shall be lawful to all Persons " to pass and repass any part of this Province with a Permission under " the Signature of such Persons as shall be authorized to grant the " same, by any Instrument to be issued by the Governor or Comman- " der in Chief for the time being, under his hand and seal at Arms, " such person conforming to the conditions regulations and Terms in " his permission prescribed or expressed.

" Ordered that this Bill lay on the Table for consideration till " Saturday next at ten o'clock.

Adjourned to that hour.

[Q 51–1, p 81]

COUNCIL CHAMBER 4th December 1790

" The Committee met according to adjournment on the 2nd Inst.

" Present the same Members as before.

" The Chairman laid before the Committee a Letter (which he had " omitted at last meeting) from the magistrates of Mecklenburg, dated " the 4th November 1789. Addressed to Henry Motz Esquire with " their Paper intitled " Remarks on the proposed Bill for amending

" the Inland Navigation Bill " Marked C referred by His Lordship 8th " January 1790. The Chairman then read the Act or Ordinance of the " 17th of the King Ch. 7th intitled " An Ordinance to prevent the " selling of strong Liquors to the Indians &c and particularly called " the attention of the Committee to the 1st 3d and 5th Articles of the " same.

" The consideration of the Bill laid before the Committee on Thurs- " day last intitled " An act to explain and amend an act or ordinance " for promoting the Inland Navigation " was resumed.

" The Clerk of the Council Mr. Williams, entered and delivered to " the Committee from His Excellency Lord Dorchester for their con- " sideration, an extract of His Majesty's Instructions to His Lordship " dated at St James's the 23d August 1786 Art 32d together with the " Plan of the Board of Trade therein alluded to " for the future " management of Indian Affairs " dated 1764, Both being read, the " extract in the following words.

" Extract of His Majesty's Instructions to the Right Honorable Guy " Lord Dorchester dated at St James's the 23rd day of August 1786."

" Art 32d. It is our Royal Intention that the Peltry Trade of the " Interior Country should be free and open to all our Subjects, Inhabit- " ants of any of our Colonies, who shall, pursuant to what was " directed by our Royal Proclamation of 1763, obtain trading Licences " from the Governors of any of our said Colonies under Penalties to " observe such regulations as shall be made by our Legislature of " Quebec for that purpose." These regulations therefore when estab- " lished must be made Publick through all our American Possessions, " and they must have for their object, the giving every possible facil- " ity to that Trade, which the nature of it will admit and which may " be considered with fair and just dealing towards the Savage, with " whom it was carried on; the fixing stated times and Places for carry- " ing on the trade and adjusting modes of settling Tarifs of the Prices " of goods and Furs, and above all the restraining the sale of Spirit- " uous Liquors to the Indians, will be the most probable and effectual " means of answering the ends proposed; These and a variety of other " regulations incident to the nature and purpose of the Peltry Trade " in the Interior Country are fully stated in a plan proposed by our " Commissioners for Trade and Plantations in 1764, a copy of which " will be herewith delivered to you, and which will serve as a guide " in a variety of Cases, where it may be necessary to make provision " by Law for that important Branch of the American Commerce."

exd signed H. M.

" Ordered that they lay on the Table and that the Consideration be " resumed at the next call of the Chair.

Adjourned.

11th December 1790

" The Committee met at the request of the Chair.

" Present the same Members as before.

" The Committee resumed the Consideration of the Bill proposed to " amend the Navigation and Inland Trade Acts.

" His Majesty's 32nd Instruction to Lord Dorchester and the Plan " for the future management of Indian Affairs" digested by the Board " of Trade and Plantations in 1764 were again read.

" The Chairman observed.

" That however fitting the scheme of the Right Honorable the Lords " Commissioners for Trade and Plantation may have been when " penned, for the conduct of Indian affairs, it appeared to him that " Subtraction of Thirteen of the Colonies to which it referred, from " His Majesty's government had totally changed the face of Commer- " cial Policy in America.

" These Colonies were become so many Independent States, each of " them assuming Sovereign Authority, each of them our rival in the " Valuable Commerce carried on with the Savage Nations in the West, " whose Countries they had already possessed themselves of and were " daily penetrating farther into the Wilderness in search of Settlement " and Trade.

" While North America remained under one Sovereignty it was pos- " sible to confine the Indian Trade to Forts Garrisons & Truck " Houses, and it was as Political as Humane to restrain the Distribu- " tion of Spirituous Liquors among men guided by the Passions of " Nature only. If Humanity still continued the same, Commercial " Policy and Intercourse had changed.

" To judge from the materials before the Committee (the representa- " tions of the Merchants and Magistrates of the five Upper Districts " of the Province) either the Freest Intercourse with the Indian " Nations must be encouraged or the inestimable Traffic carried on " with them would certainly find its way to Spain and the United " States.

" If the Government of the respective States should enter into " Treaties with Great Britain for regulating the Commerce with the " Savage Tribes, would such Treaties meet with observance from " the Emigrants daily establishing on the Banks of the Ohio, the " Wabache, the Missouri & the Mississippi ?

"If it be true, as represented, that those Emigrants have already set "up Distilleries of Corn Spirits throughout the back Settlements, and "without controul supply the Indians with such Destructive Liquors, "is there not humanity in supplying them moderately with Spirits of "a less pernicious quality? Especially when it is admitted that no "consideration, distance, hunger or nakedness, will prevent those Savages "from obtaining their bewitching beverage.

"It cannot be ascertained that much evil has hitherto resulted from "the Spirits distributed to Indians by the voyagers of this Country; "and yet it is notorious notwithstanding the restrictive Laws, the "Passports and the Bonds, with which the Indian Commerce has been "fettered, that Quantities of Liquors have and must annually be carried "among the nations to the remotest corners of their wintering grounds "throughout the extensive Countries they Inhabit. The Traders per- "sonal Interest and safety have been the best security against abuses. "It does not appear that they have given the Indians more than was "necessary to prevent them from carrying their Furs to a distant or "Foreign market, nor—has it been customary to make Rum an article "of Barter in the Trade. Its use is rather confined to gifts at feasts "and Publick Talks, where care is taken to guard against the evil "consequences of Drunkenness and Debauch. The Leaders are sen- "sible that their most permanent Interests are, that the Indians be "induced to hunt, that they be annually supplied with necessaries "ammunition and clothing, in exchange for the Bever and Furs of "their Chase. For, though Rum might procure the Hunt of a year, "yet if obtained only by its means future Industry would cease, mur- "der might result and all its concomitant evils.

"The power of regulating the Internal Commerce is by His Maj- "esty's Instructions before us committed to the Legislature of Quebec, "regulations when established are to be made public, through His "Majesty's American Dominions. The Peltry Trade is to be free and "open to all His Majesty's subjects and every facility given to it that "its nature will admit consistent with fair and just dealing towards "the Savages with whom it is carried on.

"Such are the benevolent desires of the Royal Instruction.

"It accords with the desires of the Merchants; For, according to "them "the first principle of commerce is that it be free and unfet- "tered:" deeply interested in the commerce of the Upper Country it "cannot be supposed they would suggest any thing but what from "experience & conviction they think would be of utility to it and "*equally safe* to His Majesty's Government."

" It is known to the Committee that the Gentlemen who thus pledge " themselves are the principal Houses concerned in the Interior Com- " merce of the Western Countries and Lakes, that they have extended " their adventures to many Tribes of Indians unknown at the time of " framing the Scheme of the Board of Trade. And that they are in " the Actual course of beneficial Commercial Discoveries in the " remotest parts of His Majesty's Dominions in the Hemisphere we " inhabit. Phyn Ellices & Inglis are as noted in the Capital for " probity as for enterprise and extensive Mercantile Speculations. The " persevering Genius of McTavish & Co will not be satisfied until it " has reached the Discoveries of the immortal Cook.

" Such spirit of Adventure, and the Commercial Profits derived from " it, had been lost to Britain had the Peltry Trade been confined to " fixed Posts or " Truck Houses " or the rates of Barter settled by " " Tariffs " For who could estimate the risque and expence the anxiety, " the care, and the Labour of the adventurous merchant in the " Transport of his wares Three Thousand miles into the American " Wilderness!

" When this Committee contemplates the inexplicable hazards of " Life, Health and Fortune, to which the followers of the Internal " Commerce are exposed, it cannot but recommend to its Protector, the " noble Lord at the Head of the Government, that it be freed of every " obstacle, every charge, every real or imaginary evil, with which it is " stated to be incumbered. Left to itself, it will flourish and expand— " Touch it, it decays or dies.

" The late division of the Western part of the Province into Dis- " tricts, the settlement of the Loyalists, the organization and establish- " ment of magistracy and Laws, provide for the dispensation of Justice " to all denominations of men. The Military Commandants of Posts, " are relieved from the necessity of assuming Civil or Criminal Juris- " diction or of Interfering in the conduct of affairs of the Citizen and " Merchants.

" It rests now with the Legislature to provide Wholesome Laws to " meet all future wants in the remotest parts of the Province, and with " His Majesty's Representative to appoint to the executive administra- " tion throughout the Whole Government. The Indians are equally " under the Protection of the Laws as His Majesty's other subjects and " the benefits of a free British Government begin to be felt over all " this immense Country, where we may soon hope to see it established " in all its extent, Powers & purity.

"Resolved unanimously and ordered that these observations be "entered and stand on the Minutes as the Sentiments of the Committee.

"Next, as connected with the navigation of the Lakes, the Committee "took up the consideration of a Letter from William Robertson Esquire "merchant in Detroit (a commissioner of the Peace and a member of "the Land office of the District of Hesse) dated the 8th October 1788 "addressed to William Dummer Powell, Isaac Winslow Clarke and "Louis Genevay Esquires Trustees for the Settlement of Commercial "Transport over the Lakes in the King's Vessels.

"Referred to this Committee by His Excellency Lord Dorchester on "the 22nd October last (1790) for their information in framing such "Clauses for the Intended Navigation Bill, as may be requisite to pre-"vent future Detriment to Trade."

The letter is in the following words.

To Wm Dummer Powell
Issac Winslow Clarke } Esquires
& L. Geneway

MONTREAL 8th October 1788

GENTLEMEN

"I received your letter and account of Freight for 1786 & 1787; & "here inclose mine, on which there is a balance due me. I have not "charged the money paid you by Messrs. Todd & McGill presuming "you have not of course inserted any of those sums again in this "account. I have not charged anything for loss, disembarkation or "detention at Carleton Island for the years 1786 & 1787, because my "agents here have not furnished me with the particulars, at the same "time they mention their existance, & further inform me that the Loss "I sustained in Mohawk which alone exceeded Three hundred Pounds "Halifax arose from the goods being detained and not shipped in "their just rotation. As no regular account has yet been furnished "me by Government for the transport of 1784 & 1785. I have also "postponed for the present an account of Losses I sustained during "that period, of which however, I beg leave to say a few words:—

"It was naturally expected by the merchants, that Government pro-"hibited the sailing of Private vessels, and suppressed, at Least for a "time, the carrying of merchandize in any other way but in the King's "vessels, and thereby virtually undertook to transport the goods neces-"sary for the supply and Trade of the Upper Country over the Lakes "and to carry down all the returns and Peltry. I say it was expected "that a sufficient number of King's vessels would have been kept up "for that purpose.

" 1784. This however was so far from being in the least attended to " that His Excellency General Haldimand, then Commander in Chief in " the Summer of 1784 without the least previous notice to the merchants, " or any permission for Boats or private vessels to navigate, issued a " sudden order, which reached Detroit about the beginning of August, " for the reduction of the naval establishments on the Lakes. The " large vessels were immediately stopped, unladen, unrigged & the hands " discharged. The Communications of Carleton Island and Niagara were " then crowded with Merchants' goods remaining since the preceding " year (1783) and others of the new importation was daily arriving to " augment the quantity and increase the confusion. There was at the " same time an order to forward in preference to everything else a large " quantity of provisions, public stores and Indian presents, then actually " on the communications of Carleton Island and Niagara; and for the " transport of which alone the remaining vessels on the new establishment " were said to be hardly sufficient. The consternation excited by this " ill timed order was so great, and the prospect of Ruin and General " Bankruptsy *that it was but too plain must* (*Sic.*) *so eminent* that " the Merchants, amazed, alarmed and perplexed, for the moment hardly " knew what steps to take; for the season was advancing so fast, and " the distance from headquarters so great as almost to put it out of the " power of the Commander in Chief, however prompt in his requiescence " with the prayer of their petition, to afford Relief; add to this, " that the crews of the vessels were discharged, and then actually on " their way down to Quebec. Petitions, Memorials, and Letters were " however dispatched, and orders returned from Head Quarters for the " vessels to sail again; but there were no hands to man them; such " however as could be collected were got, and the vessels that had been " laid up made a few trips in the end of the Season; but so far was the " order for shipping goods in the rotation as they had arrived from " being complied with or observed, that above forty Batteau load then " but recently forwarded from Montreal, belonging mostly to disbanded " officers &c of the late Provincial Corps (and others who had sufficient " Interest to procure them) went up first, before goods that had lain " fifteen months on the Communication by what was called *preference* " *Passes*, while the goods of those whose merit or Influence was unknown " at Head Quarters were suffered to remain a second Winter on the " Communications of Carleton Island and Niagara; and the proprietors, " of which unfortunate number I was one were paying an Interest on the " first cost and charges of six per cent, besides two years storage. Thus " ended the year 1784."

"1785. To heighten and as it were complete the ruin and mis-
" fortune of the Merchants, the ensuing spring opened with the
" Transport of Provisions and Indian Presents; and was immedi-
" ately followed by the exchange of the garrison and necessary transport
" of Troops up and down together with their Baggage and Stores; so
" that when the month of August came none of the goods remaining
" since the preceding year had reached Detroit. Application by memo-
" rial was again made to Head Quarters this Summer, stating in the
" most earnest manner the absolute necessity of affording immediate
" relief to the merchants in the Transport of their Effects, In conse-
" quence of which thirty seven Batteau loads were suffered to come
" round Lake Erie to Detroit. The Commanding officer allowed twenty
" two more to come up in the Private vessels or small craft that ven-
" tured across the Lake; & the Gage brought up twenty seven Batteau
" loads late in November the only voyage made by that vessel that
" season, and for a year or two before, for she was not in commission,
" but fitted out in consequence of General Hope's acquiescence with our
" Memorial, was mann'd and a double allowance of pay and provisions
" given to the men to induce them to act with celerity, and although
" this extra expence was defrayed by the merchants, they were obliged
" notwithstanding by the Commanding officer to give receipts for the
" payment of this freight to the King which amounted to four hundred
" and eighty six Pound York, at fifteen shillings a barrel Bulk; nay
" what is more strange, Major Ancrum, who commanded obliged the
" merchants before he would allow the Private vessels to sail to promise
" besides paying the owners, to sign Receipts for the Freight of all
" Peltries and furs they carried down, as well as the twenty two Bat-
" teau load of goods brought up by them; and they actually paid the
" owners of the vessels this freight amounting to (including the furs
" carried down) above four hundred and seventy pounds, & signed
" receipts to pay it over again to the King.

" Having thus, Gentlemen, in as few words as possible given a faith-
" ful account of the mode of transporting merchandize over the Upper
" Lakes of Canada as conducted by Government in the years 1784 &
" 1785, I shall forbear to *agravate* the real distresses it occasioned to
" the trading Interests of this Country by making remarks or ani-
" madversions on a system so pregnant with ruin to the merchant & so
" obviously tending to accelerate the loss of the fur Trade to Great
" Britain; regretting that though it had its rise prior in time to the
" commencement of this narrative its fatal operations have been felt
" though in a less degree through the subsequent periods to the pres-

" ent year; the truth of which is known and will be long felt by those " embarked in this Trade. I shall therefore confine myself, in what I " add, to such general remarks on the freight system of American " Transport in the Hands of Government as serve *purely to illustrate* " *and found* my objections to the payment of the demand on me and " others in similar situations and as my objections are I presume " founded on the principles of Justice (at least I wish them not to " rest upon any other) & on the equitable practice of merchants in " such cases, they will I hope appear conclusive & not unreasonable " on my part, Government having then thought proper from political " considerations (surely not from pecuniary motives) or whatever other " reasons they in their wisdom thought sufficient to prohibit merchant " men from navigating the Lakes of Canada and to employ the King's " armed vessels in the Transport, not only of public stores, but of all " mercantile effects and to become the carriers for the Merchants such " vessels or their owners (if such expression may be applied) must " necessarily be liable to such obligations as every other carrier of " merchandize expressly or implicitly subjects himself to, that is, to " perform a certain service for a certain or customary Payment, and " therefore in stating any objections I may have to the demand of " government for the freight of my goods over the Upper Lakes in " the King's Vessels, I must be allowed to consider them notwithstand- " ing the nature of their service in another Point of view, as merchant " men carrying goods for freight, and their owners as entitled to the " same freight if the Service is regularly and duly performed as the " owner of any private vessel; & in case of Breach of Contract or " failure of performing the implied engagement as subject to the same " penalty, as one individual would in Law & Equity be to another in " like cases & under similar circumstances."

" My first objection to the freight you Demand is because of the " Detention of my Goods, which according to Your (Government) " public engagement under the hand of the Royal Representative " ought *without partiality or favour* to have come forward in the same " Rotation in which they arrived at these places where it was stipu- " lated you would receive them at a certain freight, and deliver them " in good order at the next Port; but this was an Engagement to " which no attention was paid; for you carried merchandize only when " you had nothing else to transport, and must otherwise have sailed " empty; as will appear from the next objection, that is,

" Whenever you were laden with merchandize, and public stores " arrived before you sailed you constantly turned the merchandize

" ashore and took on board those stores notwithstanding you had given " Receipts for such merchandize deliverable in good order at the next " Port. To enumerate the Losses direct and eventual that have " attended such practices would be endless; and whenever complaints " were made to the immediate authors of this strange kind of business " no satisfaction could be obtained. If any man will suppose that the " disembarkation of goods three or four times on the rocks at Carle- " ton Island and Fort Erie and the detention of them in such miser- " able stores as were then there for twelve months or two years, was " no Injury to the Proprietor, or that a relinquishment of Freight " would be an adequate Compensation, I shall leave him to those who " can improve his understanding, for he must know but little—too " little to be informed of mercantile affairs.

" These are some of my objections to the payment of the Freights " you demand; and to shew you they are not empty and clamorous " assertions (as has been unhandsomely suggested, though not by you) " I shall to meet such imputations here subjoin extracts from the let- " ters of those employed in forwarding the goods during the Periods " to which I refer; shall produce the writers themselves, should it be " necessary to give a most ample detail of what is here advanced. I " am therefore so far from thinking that I shall have any thing to pay " to government for Freights more than I have already paid, that on " the contrary, I do not doubt of having the balance to receive, at " least if the same Justice takes place between me & Government (and " which I surely have a right to hope for) as would between two sub- " jects under similar circumstances. That the supervision of Mercan- " tile Transport was a measure of Political Expediency, rendered per- " haps necessary (or at least supposed to be so) from a regard to the " Public weal at that critical Juncture, I am not disposed to question; " but how far it may accord with the *Spirit* of the Marine Laws of " Great Britain to exact Freight for the Transport of Merchandize in " vessels navigated by officers holding Provincial Commissions and " receiving Pay from the Crown, I am not lawyer enough to deter- " mine: but I feel no doubt, when I say they were in *Justice* bound " to have performed this service with as much good faith as one sub- " ject would by law have been obliged to have done to another, I " believe the subject cannot sue the Crown for damage done in the " present case, and it will be a novelty for the Crown to commence an " Action, for the Recovery of Freight for the Transport of Merchan- " dize, that has not yet occurred under our Government. I have how- " ever a firm belief that the King's subjects will find, that though

" they had reason to complain of the Transport System in the hands " of the Crown, they will find in settling the existing demands that its " *Power*, will only be exerted in doing them Justice;—I shall now " proceed to exhibit proofs of *detention*, *disembarkation* damage &c, " during 1786 & 1787

" I am gentlemen

" Your most obedient & very humble

" Servant

(Signed) Wm Robertson

" N. B. The *Preference Passes* given numerous particularly to " Messrs. Macomb, Edgar & Macomb, during the whole war; people " often sold their goods to them rather than let them lie and Rot on " the Communications, and as soon as that was done, as if by the Com- " munication of Electricity, they were immediately put in motion; this " partial assistance was also extended to Mr. Rocheblave, Caldwell, Elliot, " La Mothe, McBeath &c &c. The names are pointed out to shew the " fact and not implying any blame on those who received these partial " monopolies few men would have requested such *valuable gifts*. The " value of a batteau load of mixed goods is about £500 currency the " detention therefore of this for only six months at 6 per cent is £30 " which is equal to nearly three times the freight of it over Lake Erie. " A *Preference Pass* for five Batteau load of goods was, all circum- " stances taken into account, worth five hundred guineas: the forty " I speak of were esteemed (only for the preference of market) worth " £3700 Sterling."

" Proofs of detention, *disembarkation* damage &ca of merchandize by " the Kings vessels on the Upper Lakes of Canada,—being extracts and " copies from original letters &ca &ca.

" 1786. Niagara August 7th. The Seneca came here last night with " five Companies of the 53d Regiment to relieve the 34th with you. " The quantity of Pork together with these Troops and their Baggage " will I am afraid prevent any merchandize from going to Your Port " in the vessels now at Fort Erie.

" I am &c (signed)

" R. Hamilton

" *Remark*

" A. B. It deserves to be observed, that the goods here alluded to " had then been three months there, and amounted to £15000 Currency."

" Fort Erie 15th August. " Inclosed you have an account of a " Batteau load of Rum shipped for you in the Felicity, a number of " other things of yours were put on Board, but on account of some

"Indian Presents coming up we were obliged to reland them, and the "Liquor was suffered to remain on Board because it was *wanted* for a "ground tier (that is to stow Dry Goods upon)"

(signed) R. DIXON

"*Remark*

"Here we find a Batteau load of Rum suffered to Remain on Board, "not as being at all necessary for the Proprietors interest, but as a "*Ground Tier*, to prevent the Bale Goods from lying on the wet "Ballast."

"Fort Erie, 30th Septr. During this Summer after having shipped "goods I have by order of the Commanding officer at different times "been obliged to unload them again this is the case with regards to "Your Porter and other Goods, which I have now put on board for "the *third* time; Last time they were put on Board the Felicity, in "the mean time the Dunmore was laden—on the arrival of some "soldiers the Felicity was ordered to be unladen again, & by this "means your things were again thrown out of—

(signed) R. DIXON"

"Niagara 10th Octor. A positive order was sent to again unload this "vessel (the Rebecca) happily by a timely application this morning I "got the order reversed, & directions given to unload Provisions & let "the goods remain; had they been again unladen many of the Packages would I am confident have fallen to pieces; what damage may "be sustained from this to part of these goods having been already "so treated three times here must be ascertained by the Merchants of "Your Place, but the fact will be incontrovertibly proved by us.

(signed) R. HAMILTON

"Fort Erie, 3rd Novr. Your offer for Rum, though it differed from "my Proposal would have nevertheless been accepted had there not been "an absolute certainty that it would not get forward: You will not "be surprized at this when you learn that the Dunmore is intirely "laden with Artillery Stores, & that there are Provisions here fully "equal to load the Batteau & that there yet remain sixteen batteau "load of merchandize to come forward."

"(signed) R. HAMILTON"

"Fort Erie 7th November. I received Mr McDonell's Letter with "the inclosed list of Your Goods now remaining on the communication· "Barrel No 129 is not here. I positively put it on board the Dunmore and inclosed the Mate's Receipt for it: it now rests with him "to account for it.

(signed) R. DIXON

" Niagara 12th October. Since mine of the 3rd Instant with yours " of the 31st Ult Capt Barnes, since our representations occasioned by " the loss and depredations committed by the Sailors on board the " Liminade, has wrote to the officer commanding the Naval Depart- " ment here to procure distinct and well authenticated accounts of the " Loss sustained by their means."

(Signed) R. HAMILTON"

" *Remark*

" It was this year discovered that a combination was founded between " the sailors & some infamous characters about the Garrison of Niag- " ara, Schlosser & Erie for robbing the different Packages of Mer- " chandize, which they carried on to great extent, and many articles " that had been missed were secreted in the woods & found rotten. " Some of the culprits were discovered, prosecuted and suffered Death. " The soldiers alone were entrusted with the Transport of Merchandize " between Schlosser & Erie, for the merchants were not *allowed* or " *trusted* to carry their own goods themselves, the consequence was " that innumerable Robberies were committed and one hardly ever " got a Package that had not been pillaged. But no satisfaction was " ever obtained only we used to be told "that we were always com- " plaining, and that we were never satisfied: The same practices were " discovered on board the vessels on Lake Erie, by observing the " sailors selling large quantities of linen &c they were tried by a " Court Martial & severely punished for it."

" Niagara Novr 22nd I am sorry to inform you that the orders now " received by the Seneca for forwarding immediately to Detroit 43 " Barrels of Pork will occasion the relanding of such goods as may " have been already shipped on Board the Felicity for that Place, and " what renders this circumstance the more to be regretted is that in " all probability the other vessels upon the Communication will for " the remaining part of this season be employed in the Transport of " Public Stores and Provisions

" I am &c "

(Signed) " A CAMPBELL "

" Detention &c &c. *1787.* Niagara July 10th. From the change of " Regiments the vessels on this Lake (Ontario) have been so much " taken up that no goods came up last Trip & very few Packs got " down, there still remain 788 Packs including those by the Rebecca."

(Signed)

R. HAMILTON

" To Mr Robertson

" Niagara 31st August. I shall be truly sorry if you are still dis-
" appointed of your Rum; *the old practice* of lading & unlading goods
" at Fort Erie still continues; about eight Batteau load remained there,
" they were all put on Board the Dunmore; they are now turned
" ashore to make room for Indian Presents; the Wyandott however
" will soon be down & take a good part of them I hope"

Signed " R. Hamilton

Fort Erie Sept. 5th

" It is now no satisfaction to inform you that I had agreeable to Mr
" Todd's desire, selected all your Trunks & dry goods & shipped them
" in the Wyandott, since I have been obliged to receive them all on
" shore again for the particulars of which I refer you to my letter to
" Messrs Leith & Shepherd."

" (signed)

" John Warren "

" Fort Erie, October 7th Inclosed you have an account of fifty Seven
" Packages of your goods disembarked from on board the Dunmore &
" now again reshipped in the Felicity except No 62 & 70 two Barrels
" still remaining on board the Dunmore."

" I am Sir &c

(signed) John Warren

" Niagara 15th Sepr The loss of property in the " Mohawk " has
' arisen from obstinately giving a preference to provisions in the *Lim-*
' *onade.* It is a fact that several batteau loads of goods sent early
' from Canada have been at Fort Erie a considerable time this sum-
' mer: That they have been twice shipped at that place and twice
' unshipped by orders, first from the Dunmore and again from the
' Wyandott, and there they still remain. The expence of this and the
' *Damage* is very great; but the delay to the trade is of the most
' serious consequences; it is now too late from Detroit to reach the
' wintering grounds with the goods, and the eventual loss will be most
' severely felt in the defective returns of next Spring by every one
' unfortunately engaged in this Business."

(signed)

R. Hamilton

Remark—

" Here is abundant proof of what has been advanced, a series of disembarkation and detention of mercantile property, and certainty of great immediate and eventual loss of manifest breach of contract

" and oppression but in the years preceding it was much worse by
" many degrees! there was however no *preference* or *partiality* in
" 1786 & 1787."

" Observed by the Chair
" That it appeared to him Lord Dorchester as Commander in Chief
" of His Majesty's Forces, had taken every requisite precaution to pre-
" vent injury to the Merchants in the future carriage of their effects
" in His Majesty's vessels navigating the Lakes by His Lordship's
" orders and regulations dated the 4th May 1789 and 5th July 1790,
" The relative Articles stand as follows on our Journals.
" Regulations of the 4th May 1789.
" Article 3rd. The Tonnage required for His Majesty's Troops and
" Effects being ascertained, the Captain or master will signify in writ-
" ing to the Superintendant of Navigation without delay the Tonnage
" remaining for the Transport of Merchants goods or other private
" Effects, with which the master is to complete his Lading.
" Art. 4th As these are to be carried in rotation the superintendant
" of navigation is to keep an open Register or Book of Entry of all
" Merchants' goods or other Private effects upon the spot and ready for
" shipping, and entered at his office, and he is to certify to the Cap-
" tain or Master of the Vessel from the date of such entry, to whom
" the Priority of Carriage is due; as also the Packages, their general
" contents, and marks and numbers, and to whom consigned.
" Art. 5th The Captains or Masters of the King's vessels will sign
" Bills of Lading for the Merchants' goods or other Private Effects
" received on Board and they will be responsible for the safe delivery
" of such goods and Effects according to the custom of merchants, and
" masters of vessels in their service."
" Art. 10th Besides the freight aforementioned the Captains or
" Masters of the Kings vessels upon Lake Ontario will be entitled to a
" Primage of five per cent upon the amount of the Freight from the
" Shippers or owners."
" Art. 12th. The Captain or Master will take care to cancel or
" obtain a discharge of the Bills of Lading given by him upon the
" safe delivery of his cargo, according to the custom of merchants and
" masters of vessels in their service, and in case of dispute with any
" of the shippers it is recommended to him to settle the same immedi-
" ately by the same rule, preferring in general the Arbitration of
" indifferent persons to proceedings at Law.

Additional Regulations 5th July 1790

" Art. 7th. Besides the freights aforementioned the Captains or Masters of the King's vessels upon Lake Erie and Lake Huron will be intitled to a primage of 5 pr cent upon the amount of the Freight from the Shippers or owners, which is to be paid and accounted for to the respective Captains as upon Lake Ontario, agreeable to the eleventh Article of the aforementioned regulations of the 4th of May 1789."

" The signing of Bills of Lading upon a stipulated Primage and Freight undoubtedly subjected the Commanders of the Kings vessels to the same suits and Damages at Law for misconduct in carriage of Effects as masters of Ships would be liable to in similar cases in the Merchants Service. Courts of Justice being established at the Ports upon the Lakes where the Ships frequent, recourse may be had to them. The Act of the 28th of His Majesty Ch, 3rd permitting the construction and navigation of merchant vessels will soon obviate all difficulties. Private effects will be carried in Private vessels. And the King's Ships have no other duty than that of the Royal Marine. The defence and protection of Commerce and the State.

" These opinions being adopted by the Committee, the question was then put, whether the Bill as entered on the minutes on the 2nd Instant be reported as the sentiments of the Committee.

" Resolved unanimously in the Affirmative.

" Ordered to report accordingly and that a copy of the proceedings signed by the chairman be laid before His Excellency Lord Dorchester as soon as engrossed.

" Council Chamber Quebec
" 11th December 1790.
(signed)

" William Grant
Chairman.

" Ordered that the Draft of the Bill, as reported by the Committee be printed in both Languages for the use of the members of the Legislative Council.

[Q 51-1, p 90]

INFORMATION RESPECTING ACTION OF INDIANS OBTAINED FROM MR. GODFROY.

State of the Information obtained from the Messenger Mr. Godfroy who brought the Express to Detroit on the 26th October 1790.

That on the 20th or two days previous to the Eclipse of the Moon a party of Sawks and Reynards arrived at the Miamies Towns.

At that time the Indians were beginning to slacken and thought of retiring to the Bush fighting.

But the Sawks and Reynards said Brothers we are not come so far for no purpose, therefore we must eat them or they us, should we want Provisions their Bodies and Horses will answer the purpose. That on the 22d in the evening they surrounded the Americans (who were about 2500 in number) attacked them and fought all that night upon a point near where the Miamis Town stood, formerly a cornfield. That a Shawanese Indian, who brought this intelligence came off the following morning early, that five Indians only were then killed, but did not know the loss of the Americans.

That in the first Battle mentioned in Col. McKee's letter two prisoners were taken, who informed them that their General intended to make a fortification at the Miamies Town and another at the Glaize—asked them their number, said they could not tell, after which the Indians knocked them in the head—That the Reynards and Sawks sent messages to Otowakie, Chief of the Roche de Bout to send messengers immediately to the Chippeways to go and join them. The Indians complain much of having too little ammunition and particularly so since the Sawks and Reynards had joined, who had none at all. Said, that if they were obliged to fight much longer they would most probably be in want.

The Indian could not tell whether the Americans had Cannon with them, for he saw or heard none.

(Signed)

JOHN SMITH
Major 5th Regt
D.

Indorsed 5
In Lord Dorchester's to Mr. Grenville No 79. of the 23d. Jany 1791.

[Q 50-1, p 35]

INFORMATION OF CAPT. MATHEW ELLIOTT.

The Information of Capt Mathew Elliott of the Indian Department.

That on the 19th October instant he received orders from Col. McKee to go and watch the motions of the American Army said to be advancing to the Miamis Towns.

That on the 21st he arrived at the Glaize, that soon after two Indian Runners arrived from the Miamis Towns, with two Scalps and messages to call on the different nations of Indians for assistance at the same time giving an account of the action between the Americans and Indians as reported in his letter to Col. McKee of the 23d instant.

That finding another action was soon expected he left the Glaize on the 23d to advance nearer the scene of Information, in order—fulfill his Instructions by using every possible means in his power to secure the British property, then in the country, and to obtain better intelligence of the strength and movements of the American army, that on the same night he arrived within 40 miles of the Miamis Towns and there was met by different chiefs who were returning to the Glaize for Provisions and was informed by them that the Americans had retreated into a Swamp, but on the same night Runners arrived at his camp with information of a second action which took place after the retreat into the Swamp, the Americans having advanced with five hundred Infantry as supposed to bury their dead.

That the Shawanese, Miamies, Ottawas, and Delawares, engaged this body near the spot where the former action was fought and the Americans were a second time defeated with the loss of upwards of Two hundred which with those killed in the engagement of the 20th make in the whole Five hundred men. That he believes the number of Americans reported by the Indians to have been killed is not exaggerated as he saw upwards of 150 scalps amongst the few Indians going for Provisions to the Glaize and its neighbourhood.

That in the last action three American Prisoners were taken in the field who reported that their army consisted of no more than Fifteen hundred men & 400 Prisoners, Packhorsemen & Bullock drivers, that they had only seven days provisions left and that the flower of their army was slain. That it is their intention to endeavour to effect a retreat down the Wabash to join Governor St. Clair.

That he is now persuaded the account he formerly received and sent in his Letter of the 23d of the number of Indians who had joined at the Miamis was erroneous, as by better information from the Chiefs to

be depended upon it appears they are not six hundred though many and numerous Tribes are now on their way to join them.

That in both actions there never were more than 200 Indians engaged owing to the celerity of the business and the scattered distances at which they have posted themselves round the American Army, that the number of Indians killed on the side of the Indians does not exceed Ten, and of wounded Fifteen most of them slightly.

That very few of the Americans escaped wounded for except a few shot with arrows the Tomahawk and spear were the only Weapon used.

That the Indians who are mentioned as having gone for Provisions were to return immediately many nations being left by them surrounding the American Camp and waiting an opportunity of attacking them whenever they make any movement and they add that in all probability the next action may be decisive—that from the information of the said Chiefs the Americans had two small Grass Hoppers and one Cohorn which last was frequently fired after the action on the night of the 22d.

They also declare that the Prisoners taken from the Americans said that Detroit was their intended object in the Spring or words to that effect and that soon afterwards the said Prisoners were put to death.

Detroit 28th Octor 1790

Montreal 29th November 1790.

(signed)

Joseph Chew

D. S. I. A.

Indorsed: Capt Elliott's Information In Lord Dorchester's to Mr Grenville, No 79 of the 23d Jany 1791.

[Q 50-1, p 37]

INFORMATION OF BLUE JACKET.

1790
1st November } The Information of Blue Jacket a principal Warrior of the Shawanese.

That he came hither Business with the several nations about this place from the Miamis, as also to their Father; that the late action of the 22d Ultimo the Indians perceiving that the American Army were preparing to retreat, by destroying their heavy Baggage, and throwing quantities of Powder into the River, had determined to collect themselves into a Body, and on the first movements of the Americans to

attack and separate as many of them as they were able to engage, in hopes that by their success in another action they may fall on and disperse their main Body; that the evening before this plan was put in Execution, about 700 Indians collected for the purpose; but the Ottawas, through the superstition of their conjurors, were persuaded that if another action took place, they would loose great numbers, withdrew themselves in the night, without consulting the other nations, which example was followed by many more, who did not know the real cause of such conduct in the Ottawas; leaving only a few Shawanese & Miamies to execute the above Plan, who being unequal to such service, were obliged to suffer the Americans to retreat without further molestation than dividing themselves into small parties to Harrass them.

He says the last accounts received before he came away, were that the Americans had got about Twenty Leagues back towards the mouth of the Rocky River retreating in great confusion, having left behind them on their way many of their wounded and several Horses – and he believes their losses will oblige them to leave their cannon behind. He further adds, that the Indians are collecting their Families together about the Miamis to settle themselves again and consult on the measures proper to be taken for their future Security.

Montreal 29th Novemr 1790.

Indorsed 8
Blue Jacket, a Shawanese
Warrior's Information

In Lord Dorchester's to
Mr Grenville No 79 -
of the 23d Jany 1791.

D.

[Q 50-1, p 43]

BLUE JACKET'S SPEECH AND ANSWER.

Blue Jacket's Speech.

FATHER,

The inroads made on our Country, the steps we have taken to fend off the Hatchet of our Enemy our Successes in the effort to protect every thing dear to us (our Country our Families and our honor) have all been recounted to you, and the particulars forwarded as they happened—we trust it meets our Father's approbation.

When our Great Father over the large Lake was wont to chastise his Rebellious Children (who now call themselves Independant Ameri-

cans) Governor Hamilton gave us the Hatchet; the Shawanese have long had the friendship of the English, they have always considered them as Brethren—they accepted the Hatchet when offered, they Lifted it up in their Brother's cause, their arm was upheld in Defense of their Great Father, and his obedient children—He commanded Peace, the Hatchet was buried when he spoke, but we were promised not to be forsaken. We now Father, call for Your assistance. We now Brethren call for yours, send out your young men amongst our nations and our People, to shew themselves Glad amongst them—Your young men will Gladden the Hearts of the Shawanese, Miamis, and others. Send your trading men and Country men amongst us, cultivate the Intercourse, 'tis the Interest of ye and us. Lend us your aid to gather together, and sow corn on the Miamis. Lend it to us effectually, or we must divide like a cloud separated by a Whirlwind and scatter away to the long running and never tired waters of the Great Mississippi, and be no more seen among you. Protect the Barter between the White and Red People, and forsake not the trade, that Links us together in amity and Interest.

The steps we have been obliged to take have reduced our families to want, even Distress. We crave your interference to feed and clothe them; We have burned our Houses to retard the approaches and prevent the Lodgement of our Enemies. Enemies who wantonly sport with our Titles of Possession, who cavil with a nation for the actions of unauthorized individuals, and who secretly aim at the destruction of your Trading Posts. We have not ceded our Country (the lands on the Miamis) to the Americans by Deed, Treaty or other ways, as other nations have, and we have been always led to understand, that when our Great Father over the wide waters gave peace to his disobedient children, he did not give away our Country to them, and in this belief we are confident, as we are told he always balances the Scale exactly. Some of our naughty young men have made war on the frontiers of America, because of their encroachments beyond the Ohio, they have done it without our nation's sanction; we as a People have made no war but as a People we are determined to meet the approaches of an Enemy, who came not to check the Insolence of individuals, but with a premeditated design to root us out of our Land, which we and our forefathers and our children, were and are bound as men and Indians to defend, and which we are determined to do. Satisfied we are acting in the Cause of Justice, and that the lands we hunt on and inhabit are ours not only by right but by former Treaties,

wherein the Ohio was always considered as the Boundary Line, and to which we have rigidly adhered.

The Chiefs of the Shawanese Miamies and others beg their Father's answer. His steady answer, for they wish to know what they are decidedly to expect.

The Shawanese are grateful to their Father for all favours received.

The Answer.

While at Peace with our neighbours, it gives us pain to hear of wars & troubles among them, we thank you for communicating any intelligence to this post in which you conceive its interest is concerned. The defence of one's country, has been from the most early ages considered as Honorable, manly and praise-worthy. When Governor Hamilton excited you to take up the Hatchet, your great father was at war, and when he commanded Peace none of his chiefs had, or have Power to lift it up; His displeasure would be too weighty for their arm. The English are happy to be considered Brethren to the Shawanese and they remember how readily, they lifted up their arms in defence of the Unity of the Empire, and in obedience of the commands of their great Father, who has always annually remembered them.

The Presents sent up here for your use shall be delivered to you without restraint, but I cannot send you any of my young men from this post without the order of my Father at Quebec, not even a few of them; you will recollect we are but a mite in the hands of our great Father and that 'tis his custom, never to go to war, but when he receives an injury and is refused redress. The Trading People and Country men shall have the same Liberty to trade amongst your Nations as usual, we wish to cultivate your intercourse and your Trade, nor can any one disapprove of your returning to occupy your own possessions and your own Lands. 'Tis our wish and we believe the wish of our Father at Quebec, to link our Nations together in friendship & peace.

Your Families shall receive what little assistance is in our Breasts to feed and cloathe them, and your other distresses and wants shall be Transmitted to your Father and Governor at Quebec. You should endeavor to restrain your young men from committing any depredations, or going to war Individually and without authority; it hurts the name and Honor of your Nation. Ye are the best Judges of the Rights, by which you hold your lands; the King of Great Britain, your great Father

can do no wrong, whatever land he bestowed to his children when he gave them Peace, he had no doubt a right to do. Your country you say has not been given away you cannot then be blamable in being unanimous to defend it. Check your naughty young men and do not allow them to commit cruelties on the frontiers! 'tis unmanly and unlike a great nation. You cannot be blamed as a nation for checking the Inroads made into your Country, by any Body of Men, whom you say come not to chastise individuals, but with a Premeditated design to dispossess you of your lands and hunting grounds, but we hope a Reconciliation will take place, between the Indians and Americans, and that a Boundary line will be fixed, by which ye will all abide, we hope you will now commence your hunt and turn your minds again to trade.

As I am only a small finger of the hand of your father at Quebec, so we can give you no decisive answer, but all shall be communicated to his great wisdom, in the mean time, we hope to hold fast the chain of friendship with you, and your nations, and so we will bid you safe return and adieu.

Signed { John Smith Major Commg. / A. McKee— D. A. I. A.

Indorsed. 9. Detroit.
The Speech of Blue Jacket a Shawnese Warrior with Major Smith & Col. McKee's } Answer.

In Lord Dorchester's to Mr. Grenville, No. 79 of 23d Jany—1791.

[Q 50–1, p 45]

THE INFORMATION OF SIMON GIRTY.

Detroit 5th November 1790

The Information of Simon Girty, States,

That on the 18th October last, he arrived in the neighbourhood of Pittsburg, where he was informed that the American Army, gone to take possession of the Indian Country consisted of Two thousand five hundred men, whereof four hundred were Prisoners, Packhorsemen & Bullock Drivers that they made not the least doubt of succeeding, that they were to establish Forts this fall at the Miamies, Lower Sandusky and Guyahaga, and next Spring were to send Troops to take possession of Detroit, and settle that part of the Country, wherein if they failed, they were to raise another Army to take it; that officers

were sent to reconnoitre Beaver Creek to know how far up that River, towards the head of Guyahaga, Craft could proceed—He further adds, that a few days before his arrival at Pittsburg, he learned that the Corn Planter, a Chief of the Five Nations set out for Philadelphia to counsel with congress about keeping the Five Nations quiet, while the Americans were taking possession of the Western Country.

D.

Indorsed: 11—In Lord Dorchester's to Mr Grenville No 79, of the 23d Jany 1791.

[Q 50–1, p 53]

MAJOR JOHN SMITH TO CAPT. FRANCIS LE MAISTRE.

DETROIT 5th November 1790.

SIR

I have the honor to enclose for the Information of Lord Dorchester, the information of Blue Jacket, a principal Warrior of the Shawanese, who is arrived at this post, with an account of the Retreat of the American Army;—He yesterday demanded a talk with me, the substance of which I also enclose and impatiently await any orders His Excellency may think proper to give.—I am fearful the Indians will be very pressing for provisions this winter, should their demands exceed the usual calculation for them, we shall be unpleasantly situated, having no specific directions to resort, and the successes of the Indians having given them a confidence that makes them very pressing. I am therefore very anxious to receive some instructions from His Excellency or the officer commanding the upper posts (to whom similar intelligence has been constantly forwarded) before the communication closes, wishing to act in every instance in conformity to the Sentiments of His Excellency

I have the honour to be
Sir
Your most obedient
humble Servant
(Signed) JOHN SMITH
Major 8th Regt

D.

CAPT LE MAISTRE
M. S.
Quebec

Indorsed 7
In Lord Dorchester's to Mr. Grenville No. 79 of the 23d. Jany 1791.

[Q 50–1, p 41]

MAJOR JOHN SMITH TO CAPT. FRANCIS LE MAISTRE.

Extract of a letter from Major Smith to Capt. LeMaistre dated

DETROIT 6th November 1790.

"I have just received the Information of Simon Girty, from Mr. "McKee, which I have the honor to enclose for the information of His "Excellency—The matter contained therein seems to correspond with "the Advertisement from their Treasury Department of 13th July 1790 "(to receive proposals for supplying Rations) in the New York Daily "Advertiser; and the public notice given to the Allegheny Militia, in "August last, to furnish drafts, ready to march on a short notice, (as "per Pittsburg Gazette) add to which that common report has long "whispered, the Cornplanter, and many of the Five Nations, not to be "the Warmest Allies to Great Britain."

D.

Indorsed:

In Lord Dorchester's to Mr. Grenville No. 79, of the 23d Jany 1791.

[Q 50–1, p 52]

COL. A. MC KEE TO SIR JOHN JOHNSON RELATIVE TO INDIAN AFFAIRS NEAR DETROIT.

DETROIT, November 7th, 1790.

SIR,

You will no doubt perceive by the different reports which I have had the Honor of making to you for some time past, the critical situation to which the affairs of the Indians in this Quarter are at length reduced to by the attempt of an Army to take possession of their Country, and notwithstanding their success in repulsing the American Army, yet it appears by their late address to the commanding officer, that they do not consider themselves adequate to a war without our support, and if their late conduct is disapproved of, that they must disperse and retire, and they show a strong inclination of removing beyond the Mississippi, you are the best judge of how far such a step would be consistent to our Interest—I have for the present opposed it as injurious to His Majesty's Service and recommended to them to reestablish themselves on their ground, until yours and the Commander in Chief's sentiments are known upon all those matters—this being also the desire of the Indians in this neighbourhood their Chiefs are gone towards

the Miamis to support and strengthen them in this measure, and there is no doubt the Indians in general will afford these nations their assistance and be involved in their affairs.

I have the Honor to be with the sincerest respect—
Sir Your faithful and very obedient Servant
(Signed) A. McKee.

Sir John Johnson, Bart D.

Indorsed: 12—
In Lord Dorchester's to Mr. Grenville No. 79 of the 23d Jany 1791.

[Q 50-1 p 55]

CAPT. JOSEPH BRANT TO SIR JOHN JOHNSON.

Nassau 8th November 1790

Sir

The death of my friend Captain David I dare say you have ere this heard of, he has left a wife and young family for the support of which, I hope government will consider the services of the Father, and be pleased to make the widow some small allowance for her children's maintenance, be assured many less deserving has been provided for by Government. I therefore as a friend and Brother to the deceased request your Interest in behalf of procuring something if ever so little it will always be found beneficial in a large family and will be ever gratefully acknowledged.

A few days agone we were informed by different vessels from Detroit that a body of two thousand five hundred Americans was then near the Miamis Villages, which (villages) the Indians upon the news of their approach together with what Corn could not be carried off, Burnt and other ways destroyed, on the 23d ulto.—A Party of one thousand on Horseback advanced in order to surprize the village, of which the Indians had timely notice and received them when little expected, and obliged them to retreat to their main Body without having effected their Intention. Some days after there was another Engagement in which the Indians were again successful, in the different Engagements the loss of the Americans is supposed to be near nine hundred, and that of the Indians ten killed and fifteen wounded—the Indians had when the last accounts came from there, still kept their

own ground and are in high Spirits. Parties joining them daily and numbers more on their march. I propose sending off four men in order to procure certain intelligence and condole with them by which they may see that we are steady in our friendship, after our men may Return I shall write you the particulars although I should suppose Col McKee wrote you on this head.

I cannot think of finishing my Letter without touching a little on Politics, as I have ever spoken freely on matters in which the public was any ways interested, and have ever disapproved of its being recommended to the Six Nations to remain on the Lands they are now on, and not to cross to this side of the River in order to settle, the evil of which may at present not appear, but be assured that time will point out the Error, their being settled on government lands was surely strengthening the British Interest in this part of the Country. The Americans in order to Engage them have had tracts surveyed on purpose for them to settle amongst them, which is in my opinion lessening the safeguard that Niagara has always had, if they had been settled on the Lands allotted us by government, this settlement might have ever rested in Security, having their Frontier well guarded, those things perhaps may never strike you in the same light with me, but whether or not, I have only taken the Liberty to give You this little of my opinion on this subject.

From my disagreeable situation at present when I know the Enemy are in the country of our Allies, would wish to have your opinion and advice by the earliest opportunity, as I expect we will receive a message from that country, and your advice I could wish for before I take any active part.

I am
Your most obedient
humble Servant
(Signed) Jos: Brant
D.

Sir John Johnson
Bart.

Indorsed 13
In Lord Dorchester's to Mr Grenville No 79 of the 23d Jany 1791

[Q 50-1, p 57]

SCHEDULE OF ENCLOSURES IN LORD DORCHESTER'S LETTERS RELATIVE TO THE INDIANS NEAR DETROIT.

[No 74.] QUEBEC 10th November 1790

SIR,

Since the intimation from New York of an intended Expedition from the American States against some of the Western Indians, and the subsequent intelligence on that subject from the Upper Posts, further accounts have been received from that quarter up to the 18th of last month, of the material part of which copies are inclosed.

I am with much respect and esteem Sir

Your most obedient and most humble Servant

DORCHESTER.

The Right Honble
William Wyndham Grenville.

Schedule of the Inclosures.

1. Message from Governor St Clair to the Chiefs and Warriors of the Seneca Nations dated Pittsburg 8th September 1790, professing friendship and recommending neutrality. [Published on page 96]

2. Letter from the same to the Commanding officer at Detroit dated Marietta 19th September 1790 professing friendship towards Great Britain, confidence in our neutrality, and that our traders will be restrained from assisting the Indians, of whose depredations he inscribes to their instigation. [Published on page 99]

3. The Commandant's answer to the above dated Detroit 14th October 1790. [Published on page 102]

4. Extract of a letter from the Commandant at Detroit dated 16th October 1790, stating the apprehensions of the Traders from the approaching expedition. [Published on page 103]

5. Letter from the Indian Agent at Detroit, dated 18th October 1790, giving account of the progress of the intended expedition and the proceedings of the Spaniards and inclosing [Published on page 106]

6. Message from Governor St Clair to the Chiefs and Warriors of the Wyandot nation dated Muskingum 19th September 1790, professing friendship and recommending neutrality. [Published on page 98]

7. Extract of a private letter from Detroit dated 17th October 1790, concerning the intended expedition and its effects upon the Trade. [Published on page 104]

Indorsed:— D.
Quebec 10th Novem 1790 Lord Dorchester No 74 R 18 Decr. 7 Inclosures

[Q 49, p 100]

DOBIE AND BADGLEY TO MESSRS. BRICKWOOD, PRATTLE AND CO.

MONTREAL 11th Novr 1790

Messrs. Brickwood Prattle & Co.
Gentn

Our last Respects were of 4th Current to which refer.

The purport of the present is to inform you that a few days ago an express arrived from Detroit with dispatches for Lord Dorchester, and intelligence of a general officer with an army of 6,000 Americans and 16 pieces of cannon with 2 mortars being at the *Meamis* villages in the vicinity of Detroit—that they had sent a message to the Commandant of that Post Major Smith desiring him not to be alarmed, that they had no hostile intentions against the British Posts or Settlements, but that they had come up merely with a view to chastise the Indians for their insolence and the depredations and cruelties they had committed on the Frontiers—how far these may be their real intentions it is hard to tell. Conjectures are different, by some it is thought that they mean to build Forts where they now are, for which purpose they have brought up their Cannon, by which means they will cut off the communication with Detroit, and if they conciliate the affections of the Indians they will effectually ruin the Trade of the British Settlement, they have desired Major Smith not to interfere in the matter on the part of the Indians nor to furnish them with Arms or Ammunition—this can hardly be complied with we should imagine as the Indians will certainly looking for assistance and protection from those with whom and for whom they formerly fought and by whom they were taught to look upon the Americans as their common enemy, by some it is apprehended that their intentions are deeper laid than merely building Forts and establishing Posts for themselves but also may have an inclination for the possession of those already erected as witness their having mortars which are employed rather in the offensive than defensive, and so large a Body of men in that Country, indicates views of a different nature from those which they would wish to make us believe, however let the future event of their designs be what they may, the effects will be of serious consequence to the Detroit Trade for the present year, as the Indians will totally neglect their hunt in that part of the Country and be thrown into a general consternation. This is information particularly disagreeable for us to communicate to you, but we thought it our duty to intimate to you a matter so seriously important to the Fur Trade. We have just mentioned to you what we have heard from persons who have gone down from Detroit,

and of what has transpired of the Governor's Dispatches—and tho perhaps the number of men may be exaggerated, as is generally the case in similar circumstances, yet that there are a body of American Troops near Detroit is a fact that may be relied on, and their intentions cannot be altogether pacific it is with a degree of pleasure that we can inform you that for ourselves we shall not immediately feel the effects of this invasion, as we are not in the smallest degree concerned in the Detroit Trade, and we are led to think that the motives of the Americans in their further manœuvres will be regulated much by the event of peace or war in Europe. We send this to Quebec to reach a Transport that is yet to sail from thence as we are informed.

The Cargo of the Atlas from the unfortunate accident she met with on the 26th Ulto. is to be sold by publick sale, for the purpose of establishing a general average on the property. When our two Servus of Brazilian tobacco must consequently share the fate of the rest of the Cargo.

We remain with much respect
Gentr
Your obedt. humble Servts.
Dobie & Badgley.

Indorsed—Montreal 11th Nov. 1790
Dobie & Badgley recd 18th Decr pr The Mary Ann

[Q 49, p 333]

COPY OF SPEECHES FROM TIMOTHY PICKERING TO THE SIX NATIONS.

Brothers,

When I last met you in Council I buried the Hatchet and expressed my wishes that it might remain forever buried I also assured you that the United States desired to maintain with you perpetual peace and friendship.

You therefore now sit easy on your seats, and as I have often washed your eyes, I trust you can see clearly.

Brothers,

The occasion of this treaty has been already mentioned, it seemed proper that everything connected with that occasion should first claim our attention, accordingly in compliance with your request, the effects of your deceased Brothers have been given up, and yesterday was

spent agreeable to your customs in mourning their unhappy fate. Brothers, I sincerly join with you in lamenting their untimely deaths.

It now remains for me to assure you that the murders of Your Brothers "are causes of great displeasure to the United States," I am also to explain to you the measures which have been taken tc bring the murderers to Justice.

In the first place the murders being committed in Pensylvania the President and Council of that State offered a Reward of eight hundred dollars to any persons who should apprehend the murderers, that is two hundred dollars for each, to be paid when the murderers should be tried and found guilty. And in the next place the president and Council promised a Reward of fifty pounds for the taking of each of the murderers to be paid on their commitment to prison. Brothers, such is the Information on this head which I have receiv'd from my brother Colo Wilson, who is one of the Council, and is here present.

Brothers,

In the United States the promise of rewards is the usual and most effectual method of getting bad men apprehended. It has in part succeeded in the present case, one of the offenders has been taken and put in prison, and the Reward of fifty pounds has been paid to the two men who took him. The other three murderers have fled and probably gone to places where they are not known, should they return we may reasonably expect they will also be taken.

Brothers,

I have assured you that the murderers of your two brothers are causes of Great displeasure to the United States, I further assure you that our Great Chief the president of the United States will suffer no injury done to our Brothers the Indians at peace with the United States to go unpunished, if the offenders can be found, I assure that all our Brothers of the Indian Tribes may perfectly rely on his Justice and Goodness, if therefore any white man of the United States shall hurt you, make it known to our Great Chief, or to the person whom he shall appoint to hear your complaints, and what is right towards you he will cause to be done.

Brothers,

You know that sometimes white men kill white men yet the relations of the slain do not avenge their blood but leave it to be done by the Judges, who act cooly and without passion and by a careful examination distinguish the innocent from the guilty, whereas if the Fathers and Brothers of the slain should be allowed to take Revenge, they

with their blood boiling and mad with resentment would often kill the Innocent instead of the guilty.

BROTHERS,

This is the law of the white men 'tis especially the law of the United States.

BROTHERS,

You will allow the principal or reason of this law to be just, and being just we trust you will in all times to come make it the rule of your conduct towards your Brothers of the United States.

BROTHERS,

You have demanded the property of the murderers of your two brothers, I have enquired for their property, and am informed they were poor men, possessing nothing but a little land, which can be of no use to you, Besides, the Laws of the United States do not allow of such a forfeiture. If a white man killed a white man, neither the mother or other relations of the deceased can claim the property of the murderers, all they can demand is, that proper means be used to apprehend them, and if taken and found guilty, that they be put to death. But in the present case Brothers, the United States do more for you than the law requires to be done for their own citizens, for the President of the United States has directed me to present to you a quantity of goods as an atonement for the Blood of your Brothers that was spilt. These goods in convenient time I will deliver you.

BROTHERS

It is your custom at Treaties to deliver Belts of Wampum, according to the importance of the subjects treating of, I am not provided with those mementos or means remembrance, nor are they to be obtained at this place. They are not in use among white men in their Treaties, but instead thereof everything necessary to be remembered is put down in writing, by which means whatever is done at a treaty will be as well known to their children and children's children, to the latest posterity, as if they had been living and present at the Council fire. This excellent method of preserving the memory of important facts, in use among the wisest nations of white men cannot be unacceptable to you. But nevertheless Brothers, you on your part can observe your ancient customs, which will be entirely satisfactory to me. In return you will allow me, as well from a sense of propriety, as the necessity of the case, to observe the customs of white men. I therefore present you a copy of the speech I have just delivered, it will always inform you truly of everything I have now said and therefore I desire you to receive and preserve it.

Brothers,

As a testimony of the Exactness of the copy and a proof that all I now said to you is true, I have set my seal to it and subscribed my name.

(Signed)

Timothy Pickering

Commissioner in behalf of the United States.

Dated at Tioga Point the eighteenth day of Novr. 1790.

Brothers,

It is my duty to inform you (and I desire you to listen to my words) that hereafter all business between you and any part of the United States is to be transacted with the General Government, and not with the Government of any one State, or any number of States short of the whole.

Brothers,

I will first shew you how the United States became possessors of this exclusive authority relative to Indian affairs and then read and explain to you, a late law made by the Congress of the United States, in pursuance of that authority.

Brothers,

The Congress of the United States is the great Council of the nation. The Thirteen States have agreed to give this Great Council very great powers, because such great powers were found necessary for the good of the whole nation, one of those powers is given in these words.

"The Congress shall have power to regulate commerce with foreign nations and among the several States and with the Indian Tribes."

Brothers,

The Thirteen States have also given great power to their President or Great Chief, one of these powers is that of making treaties with the advice and consent of the Senate or Council of old men, and because the affairs of the United States are very great and extensive the President has many chiefs to assist him.

These Chiefs are appointed by the president or great chief, with the advice of the Council of old men.

This Council of old men is composed of Chiefs from each of the thirteen States, and have their Council fire kindled at least once in every year, and because they have a great deal of Business to do, they

keep their fire burning a long time. But when their fire is buried and they go home, then the Great Chief alone has power to appoint chiefs or officers to assist him, to hold treaties with the Indian Tribes and do other Business of the United States.

Brothers,

I will mention particularly but one other power of the President of the United States, and that is a very important one it is expressed in these words.

"He shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed." 'Tis by virtue of this power that the President has directed me to communicate to you the law which I shall presently read.

Brothers,

You now see how it has come to pass, that hereafter all business between you and any parts of the United States is to be transacted with the General Government of the United States, administered (or exercised) in the manner I have just now stated, if therefore hereafter any person without authority of the United States shall offer to make a treaty with you, in Behalf of any State, or of any number of Citizens of the United States, Brothers do not hear him for every such offer must be made to Deceive and impose upon you.

Brothers,

You may remember in my Commission from our Great Chief the President of the United States I am particularly required to communicate to you, in a plain and fair manner the late act of Congress respecting the Trade and Intercourse with the Indian Tribes.

Brothers,

That act or law of Congress is printed on the paper I now hold in my hands.

Brothers,

Open your Ears that you may hear me read and explain it.

No 33.

Congress of the United States at the Second Session begun and held in the City of New York on Monday, the fourth day of January one thousand seven hundred and ninety.

An act to regulate Trade and Intercourse with the Indian Tribes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, that no person shall be permitted to carry on any Trade of, or intercourse with the Indian Tribes, without a license for that purpose, under the hand and seal of the superintendant of the department or of such other person as the President of the United States shall appoint for that purpose, which Superintendant or other person so appointed, shall on application issue such license to any proper person, who shall enter into bond with one or more Sureties approved of by the Superintendant, or person issuing such Licence, or by the President of the United States, in the penal sum of one thousand dollars payable to the president of the United States, conditional for the true and faithful observance of such rules, regulations and restrictions as now are, or hereafter shall be made for the Government of Trade and intercourse with the Indian Tribes. The said superintendents, and persons by them licensed as aforesaid, shall be governed in all things touching the said Trade and Intercourse by such rules and regulations as the President shall subscribe, and no other person shall be permitted to carry on any trade or intercourse with the Indians without such Licence as aforesaid. No Licence shall be granted for a longer term than two years, provided nevertheless that the President may make such order respecting the Tribes surrounded in their Settlements by the citizens of the United States, as to secure an intercourse without licence, if he may deem it proper.

2nd. And be it further enacted that the Superintendant or person issuing such licence shall have full power and authority to recall all such Licences as he may have had issued, if the person so licenced shall transgress any of the regulations or restrictions provided for the Government of Trade and Intercourse with the Indian Tribes, and shall put in suit such bonds as he may have taken immediately on the breach of any condition in said bond. Provided always that it shall appear on trial that the person from whom such Licence shall have been recalled has not offended against any of the provisions of this act, or the regulations prescrib'd for the Trade and Intercourse with the Indian Tribes he shall be entitled to receive a new Licence.

3rd. And be it further enacted that every person who shall attempt to trade with the Indian Tribes, or be found in the Indian Country with such Merchandize in his possession as are usually vended to the Indians, without a licence had and obtained as in this act prescribed, and being thereof convicted in any Court proper to try the same, shall forfeit all the merchandize so offered for sale to the Indian Tribes, or so

found in the Indian Country, which forfeiture shall be one half to the benefit of the person prosecuting and the other half to the Benefit of the United States.

4th. And be it further enacted and declared that no sale of lands made by any Indians, or any nation or tribe of Indians within the United States shall be valid to any person or persons, or to any State, whether having the right of presumption to such Lands or not, unless the same shall be duly executed, at some public treaty, held under the authority of the United States.

5th. And be it further enacted that if any citizen or Inhabitant of the United States or of either of the territorial districts of the United States, shall go into any town, settlement or territory, belonging to any nation, of the tribes of Indians and shall there commit any crime upon, or trespass against the person or property of any peaceable and friendly Indian or Indians which if committed within the Jurisdiction of either of the said districts against a citizen or a white Inhabitant thereof would be punishable by the laws of such state or district, such offender or offenders shall be subject to the same punishment and shall be proceeded against in the same manner, as if the offence had been committed within the Jurisdiction of the state or district to which he or they may belong against a citizen or white Inhabitant thereof.

6th. And be it further enacted, That for any of the crimes or offences aforesaid the like proceedings shall be had for apprehending, imprisoning or bailing the offender as the case may be, and for recognizing the witnesses for their appearance to testify in the case, and where the offender shall be committed, or the witness* or either of them, as the case may be, to the District in which the trial is to be had, as by the act to establish the Judicial courts of the United States are directed, for any crimes or offences against the United States.

7th. And be it further enacted that this act shall be in force for the term of two years, and from thence to the end of the next Sessions of Congress and no longer.

(Signed) FREDERICK AUGUSTUS MUHLENBERG
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

(Signed) JOHN ADAMS
Vice President of the United States and President of the Senate.

Approved July 22nd 1790.

(Signed) GEORGE WASHINGTON
President of the United States.

[Q 50–1, p 172]

*Here the following words are omitted, as appears by the printed acts of Congress: "Shall be in "a district other than that in which the offense is to be tried for the removal of the offender and the "witnesses." H. M.

Explanation of an Act of the Congress of the United States of America entitled "An act to regulate trade and Intercourse with the Indian Tribes."

1. By the first section or part of the act it appears that the Indian Tribes within the limits of the United States, are to be arranged in certain departments, for each department there is to be a Superintendant of Indian Affairs, that no person is to trade with the Indians without a licence from the Superintendant of the Department, that before a licence can be obtained the person applying for it must give bond with one or more securities, in the sum of one thousand dollars, to observe such rules as shall be made by the president of the United States to regulate trade and intercourse with the Indians, and that no licence can be granted for a longer term than two years.

But that nevertheless the president may permit persons without licence to trade with those Indians which are surrounded in their settlements by the citizens of the United States.

2nd. The second section provides a remedy for abuses, it will be the duty of each Superintendant to licence only good and Honest men to trade with the Indians, but sometimes he may be deceived by bad men, who after receiving licences may cheat the Indians and disregard the rules they are bound to observe. In such case the Superintendant is to take away their licences, and oblige any one found guilty of breaking those rules, to pay the thousand dollars for which he had given bond, if however after an Examination before the Court it shall appear that the Superintendant was mistaken and that the Trader had not broken the rules, then he will be acquitted and a new Licence will be given him.

3rd. The third section is designed as a further and effectual guard to the Indians against the frauds and impositions of unlicenced traders. For it is reasonably presumed that every *honest* trader will be willing to take a licence and to observe the rules which our Great Chief shall make to regulate the trade with the Indian Tribes. If therefore any man attempts to carry on such trade without a licence, it will be because he is unwilling to be bound by good and honest rules, rules which will be made for the Benefit and Security of the Indians, and to ensure the continuance of peace between them and the United States.

Therefore it is declared that every such lawless trader shall forfeit all the goods, or merchandize, which he shall offer for sale, to the Indians, or which shall be found in his possession in the Indian Country.

4th. The fourth section is intended for the mutual advantage of the United States and of the Indian Tribes, in times past some white men

have deceived the Indians falsely, pretending they had authority to lease or purchase their Lands; and sometimes they have seized on more than the Indians meant to sell them, again falsely pretending that those lands were comprehended within their purchase, such fraudulent practices have made our brothers angry, and sometimes occasioned hostilities, wars and bloodshed. Yet Indians will always be exposed to such deceptions and impositions while they continue to sign and seal papers which they cannot read. Now Brothers, to prevent these great evils in future, the Congress declare that no sale of land by any Indian to any person, or persons, or even to any state, shall be valid (or of force) unless the same be made at some public treaty held under the authority of the United States, for at such public treaty, wise and good men, will be appointed by the President to attend to prevent all deception and fraud, these wise and good men, will examine every deed before it is signed and sealed, and see that every lease or purchase of the Indians be openly and fairly made.

5th. The fifth section declares how those white men, who hurt friendly Indians in their person or property shall be punished. Brothers, it is proper that I inform you, that if an Indian be murdered or in any manner injured within the Jurisdiction of any State, the murderers or trespassers will be liable to the same punishment, as if the person murdered or injured were a white man. But the United States are desirous of making further provision for the security of their Brothers the Indians, and therefore Congress have declared that if any inhabitant of the United States, or of either of the territorial districts of the United States, shall go into town, settlement or territory belonging to any nation or Tribe of Indians, and there commit any crime upon, or trespass against the person or persons or the property of any peaceable and friendly Indian or Indians, such offender shall be subject to the same punishment, as if the offence had been committed within the state or district to which he may belong, against a citizen *or* white Inhabitant thereof.

6th. In the sixth section Congress direct that for any of the crimes or offences mentioned in this law, the same manner of proceeding to bring the offenders to trial and punishment shall be used, as if the crimes or offences were committed against the United States.

7th. The seventh and last section in a few words limits the duration of the law, and needs no explanation, But it may be proper for me to observe, that if the law should be found useful, it will undoubtedly be continued for a longer term; in a word, so long as it shall prove beneficial to you and to the United States.

Brothers,

The acts of Congress which I have now read and explained, cannot fail to give you satisfaction, for it must convince you, "of the friendly disposition of the federal government (which is the government of the United States) towards you, and its readiness to extend protection and support to you on all useful occasions."

Brothers,

Let me intreat you to lay up this law in your Hearts, and keep it fresh in your memories, the President of the United States will appoint Superintendants, make rules for the Government of Licenced Traders, and do whatever shall be necessary, to carry the law into complete execution.

Brothers,

I now present to you a copy of the law which I have just read and explained, and a copy of the explanations, and in testimony also of the exactness of the copies, and that in my opinion those explanations are just, I have certified the same under my hand and seal.

Given at Tioga Point the twentieth day of November 1790.

In behalf of the United States.

(Signed)

Timothy Pickering
Commissioner.

Brothers,

The Business on which we met at this Council Fire has been conducted greatly to my satisfaction, and I hope to yours the good disposition you have manifested will give much Pleasure to our Great Chief and to Congress which is the Great Council of the United States.

If any circumstance on your part should be disapproved, it will be your delay in coming to meet me.

Brothers,

Such want of Punctuality is quite contrary to the Customs of white People, and is attended with great inconveniency.

Brothers,

I apprehend such delays are occasioned principally by the multitude of your people who commonly attend treaties, consisting not only of men who can travel fast but of women & children who walk slowly. The greater the numbers too, the more time it takes them to get ready, the more accidents happen on the way to delay their Journey, and the greater the difficulty to procure a supply of provisions.

BROTHERS,

This way of attending treaties you know is not the way of the nations f white men in America, and I assure you it is not the way of any ation of white men on the other side of the great water, for they hold ieir treaties by a deputation of only one or a few of their Chiefs, and ideed one Nation of Indians has lately done the same.

BROTHERS,

This was the great Creek Nation which inhabits the Country lying etween the settled parts of Georgia (which is the Southernmost of the irteen States) and the Mississippi. This Great Nation of Indians eputed and sent Twenty four of their Kings, Chiefs and warriors, to ew York to settle all their disputes with the United States. These eputies, that is the Twenty four Kings, Chiefs and Warriors, accordgly held and concluded a Treaty of the highest Importance to their ation, a treaty by which an end was put to all differences, their oundary line fixed, and perpetual Peace established between them and ie United States.

BROTHERS,

If instead of waiting to assemble a great number of men, women & hildren, only half a dozen of your great men should be appointed to old a treaty in behalf of your nation the Business might soon be conluded at the same time the Rest of your People could follow without iterruption their usual Employment at home.

BROTHERS,

This is a matter which highly deserves your notice. I hope you will onsider well of it, and then I think you will be convinced of the propriety of following hereafter the example of the Great Creek Nation of ndians, and of all the great nations of white men, by sending to every reaty only a few of your greatest and best men, to act in behalf of our whole nation, in that case your whole nation can as well know hat has been done at a treaty, as if the whole attended, for your eputies or chiefs can take back with them in writing an exact account f every thing which has passed at the treaty, every speech made to ou by the Deputies of the white men, all your own speeches and every greement and treaty entered into being committed to writing, you could ike home with you true copies of the whole, by which means not only our brothers who remained at home but your children and children's hildren, might as certainly know every thing which had been said and one at a treaty as if they had all been alive and present. Brothers, his would also secure you from impositions relative to any treaties you ad made, for if it should be pretended that any thing had been said

or agreed to, you could look into the writings in your possession and there find the Truth.

BROTHERS,

I have observed your attachment to the customs of your forefathers, it is a natural attachment, all other nations have their ancient customs to which they are also attached, yet when they find the old customs become inconvenient they forsake them and adopt new rules.

BROTHERS,

This is frequently done by all the nations of white men and you know that the nations of the white men have great knowledge and wisdom.

BROTHERS,

Let me desire you again to think well of this matter, consider the many advantages of committing the management of all treaties to a deputation of a few of your wisest and best men. I will venture to assure you that nothing would better please our Great Chief and our Great Council than your adopting this method of holding treaties with the United States.

BROTHERS,

I do not expect you to take this matter into consideration at this time, I have only mentioned it as worthy of your notice and wish you to think of it at your Leisure, when you get home, I have mentioned it as well in friendship to you as from a sense of duty to the United States.

BROTHERS,

I now present you with an exact copy of the speech I have just delivered and in testimony thereof have set to it my seal and subscribed my name this Twenty second day of November 1790.

In behalf of the United states.

(Signed)

TIMOTHY PICKERING

Commissioner.

BROTHERS,

The business for which this Council fire was kindled is now finished. The Hatchet has been buried and the Chain of Friendship made bright—but before the fire is put out I must address a few words to the relations of our two deceased Brothers.

My Friends,

You have now assembled to receive the last public testimony of Respect to the Memories of our two Brothers whose untimely deaths we have once already joined in Lamenting.

Mothers,

You have lost two worthy sons from whom you expected support and comfort in your old age, You appear bowed down with sorrow as with years your affection must be very great. I also am a Parent, the Parent of many sons, the loss of any one of whom would fill me with distress, I therefore, can feel for yours.

Brothers and Sisters,

You have lost two valuable relations whose assistance was useful and whose company was pleasing to you, and with whom you expected to pass yet many years; with you also I can join in mourning your misfortune.

Mothers Brothers & Sisters,

Let me endeavor to assuage your grief, you enjoy the satisfaction of remembering the good Qualities of your deceased Sons and Brothers, of reflecting that they were worthy men, and of hearing their names mentioned with honour. Let those considerations afford you some comfort. Death you know is the common lot of all mankind and none can escape its stroke, Some indeed live for many years, till like well ripened Corn they wither and lay down their heads, but multitudes fall in infancy and children like the tender shooting corn nipped by the untimely frosts, others again grown up to manhood are then cut off, while full of sap, and flourishing in the vigour of Life, the latter it seems was the state of our two deceased brothers—but my friends they are gone and we cannot bring them back. When the Great Spirit shall so order it we must follow them, but they cannot return to us, this is the unalterable course of things, and it is our duty patiently to bear our misfortunes.

Mothers,

To Manifest the Sorrow of the United States for the loss of your sons, and that you and your families may always have with you the usual tokens of remembrance, I now present to you these belts.

Brothers,

The Stake has been struck into the ground and it has been pulled out in presence of you all, we have put into the hole all our Troubles and again stuck in the stake that they may never arise again.

The foregoing is a true copy of the speech I delivered with two mourning Belts at the Council Fire at Tioga, on occasion of the murder of two Seneca Indians at Pine Creek in Pensylvania certified at the request of the Sachems.

Under my hand and seal the 22nd day of November 1790.

(Signed)

TIMOTHY PICKERING

Commissioner in Behalf of the United States

D.

Indorsed 30

In Lord Dorchesters to Lord Grenville No. 84 of the 14th June 1791.

[Q 50-1, p 187]

ADVICES FROM DETROIT RELATIVE TO ACTIONS IN MIAMIS COUNTRY.

Extract from the Quebec Gazette 2nd Decr. 1790.

"Advices from Detroit as late as the 6th Novr. informs us of two actions fought between the Indians & part of Governor St Clair's army, in the Miamis Country.

We have reason to believe the following to be as accurate an account of these events as has yet come to the knowledge of the public.

The American Army consisting of 2700 men 1000 of which were Horse had made a very rapid movement by the 14th Octr to within nine Leagues of the Miamis Villages, the Shawanese & Potowatomies, after destroying their own villages and what grain they cou'd not remove (they allowed the Indian Traders settled among them to remove every thing but ammunition) encamp'd about 800 strong at some distance from the spot, & were attack'd on the 16th by the 1000 Horse who they defeated after killing about 300, the remainder retreated to the main Body, on the 20th the Indians being reinforc'd, attack'd that Body & defeated them with the Loss of 250 or more, and from the daily growing strength of the Indians, who were determined to pursue the retreating Army of the Americans, News of a General Engagement was hourly expected; when these accounts left Detroit, such American Prisoners as they took (after endeavoring to learn what were their designs which they said was to erect some forts for the present & to attack Detroit in the Spring) they kill'd.

The Indians have call'd on Major Smith and the officers in the Indian Department to know what assistance they are to expect, and say, if Great

Britain will not assist them they will go over to the Spanish Lines and we must abide the consequences."

Indorsed—In Mr. Brickwood's of the 1st Feby 1791.

[Q 54-2, p 688]

INTELLIGENCE FROM DETROIT.

Extract of a letter dated

MONTREAL 11th December 1790.

"We have only to communicate the alarming Intelligence you will find in the enclos'd extract from the Quebec Gazette of the 2nd Instant. The Americans pretend their sole object is to chastise the Indians, for depredations made on their Back Settlements, but this is generally believed to be only a pretence for bringing a sufficient force into the Country to seize on the Posts they pretend a Right to by Treaty, they have been repuls'd in their first essay, but they will certainly return in the Spring with a force the Indians cannot resist, the Indians destroy'd or driven over to the Spanish Lines, the Posts will be no longer tenable by us, and the whole Trade from that Quarter ruin'd, nothing can save the Indians but giving them effectual aid against the Americans or negotiating a Peace between them. We are doubtful whether Lord Dorchester will determine on either; however the Merchants interested are determined first to apply to him & if necessary thro' him by memorial to His Majesty, which our friends in London will be requested to second and from whom we hope to be inform'd as early as possible what may be determin'd in consequence."

[Q 54-2, p 687]

ADDITIONAL NEWS FROM DETROIT.

Extract of a Letter from Montreal dated 11th Decr 1790.

"We have to inform you in addition to what we have already communicated to you respecting the Situation of Detroit, that by an Express arrived from that post last week, Intelligence has been received of a tribe of Indians called the Shawanese, in consequence of a Detachment of the American Army having been discovered reconnoitering their situation, with an intention of molesting them—destroyed their village, after having removed their corn &ca, & turn'd to the number of 800

(about) Warriors, who were determined to attack the Americans; in consequence of which they sallied forth upon the advanced party on the 16th of October last from their ambush and after having thrown their enemy into the greatest consternation, by a tremendous shower of arrows, they rushed upon them in this situation, from the woods with their Tomahawks, and killed about 200 of the Americans upon the spot, by means of this dreadfull Engine of Death, this occasioned a retreat of the Party, the Indians still continuing their pursuit, made a second attack upon them on the 19th same month, left about 300 of the Americans dead upon the field—they would have effectually cut off the whole party, but for one of their principal men having made a Dream which predicted the arrival of some misfortune to themselves if they did any further execution, and which from the faith which the Indians have in such fanciful anticipations, gave the Americans an opportunity of improving their Flight. The Indians took a few Prisoners who previous to their being put to death declared that it was their intention to build Forts in the vicinity, during the Winter, to defend them from the Indians, and in the Spring to have attack'd Detroit—the Indians in these two attacks, it is said had only 10 killed & 15 wounded. The American Army are retreating with the greatest precipitation, and in the most pitiful situation, having but a small stock of Provisions remaining, & being pursued by an inhuman & merciless Foe, through an inhospitable country, and we are afraid few will reach their own country from the several dreadfull causes of Hunger, fatigue & precipitate Flight—their number (as we imagined) was greatly exaggerated in our first information—it appearing that they had in all about 2500 men. The Indians are collecting from all the adjacent parts; and will consequently form a very powerful Party by the Spring, some Chiefs have come to Detroit to know what assistance or support they can depend upon from their Great Father, to which the commanding officer cou'd only reply that he cou'd act only by his instructions from his superiors, and as such cou'd not interfere—

The Indians previous to their putting into execution their Resolution of attacking the Americans, desired all the Traders to remove to some place of safety, that they wou'd protect them & their property, with which the Traders found it their Interest to comply. The Indians however took from them all their Arms & Ammunition; We are at a loss to guess what may be the event of this unfortunate Disaster; and what our neighbors may be resolved upon in consequence of this unexpected reception of their Forces; and let their future operations be what they

may, the event very materially concerns this Province. The Trade of the District of Detroit will be much injured this year allowing that matters proceed no further, as the Indians will entirely neglect their Hunt, and what adds to this misfortune is the circumstance of the Warriors being the best & in fact the only hunters among their respective Tribes—but we are afraid that this Event is only the prelude to more important scenes; and as this disaster will naturally prompt the Americans to revenge, we can hardly presume to predict the unhappy Conseqences, and shou'd another Force be sent into that Country, either with a view of conquering the Indians or attacking the Posts, the most dreadful depredations will be committed, the Trade will be totally neglected, and rendered nothing but a scene of confusion & insecurity; together with the perpetration of the most violent acts of injustice towards the Traders, whose property would be pillaged, and themselves rendered a prey to the caprice & cruelty of both parties; besides in the Event of another Invasion of that Country, the Indians will naturally apply to the British for assistance, which if refused they will have no other alternative, but of abandoning the country and throwing themselves upon the Protection of the Spaniards, which indeed the Indians of some Nations have already declared to be their Intention, the consequences of which wou'd be equally prejudicial to this Province, and but for the interposing Hand of Government must take place should these measures be adopted by the Americans. We have thought it our Duty thus to inform you of the disagreeable predicament in which the Indian Trade is likely to be involved, and we think that you are very materially interested, Gentlemen, in the Security of our Trade that a meeting of the Merchants in London who are concerned in this Country shou'd be called, and a state of the situation in which we are likely to be immerged laid before His Majesty. Mr. Todd, Mr. Richardson, Mr. Robertson & Mr. McTavish being all upon the spot, and all very much interested, can give you every information of the nature of the Trade together with the tendency of the impending circumstances; and thereupon measures of security may be devised. It wou'd be presumption in us to pretend to say what those measures should be, as we are persuaded that when matters are properly stated, the wisdom of government will provide such remedies as may protect the Trade on one hand & secure it on the other. We have had some conversation with Mr. McGill & Mr. Frobisher on this important subject, and we shall do all in our power; in order to

have an address presented to His Majesty from the whole Body of the Traders in this Country—through the medium of Lord Dorchester.

Indorsed: In Mr. Birchwood's 1 Feby 1791.

[Q 54-2, p 690]

EXTRACT FROM LETTER OF SIR JOHN JOHNSON RELATIVE TO INDIANS IN NEIGHBORHOOD OF DETROIT.

Extract from Sir John Johnson Bart's letter—Dated Montreal 11th Dec. 1790.

As I know you must be interested in the result of the American expedition against the Indians in the neighbourhood of Detroit I shall only inform you that the Indians have twice defeated their army and obliged them to retire with precipitation, the particulars of all which, I have no doubt, your Friends, my next door Neighbours, will give you—I shall therefore say no more on that subject, but that I think the people interested in the Trade of that Country ought to use their Interest with Government to put a stop to any further Encroachments in the Indian Country, by trying to establish a line of division from the Pennsylvania Northern & Western Boundary line as established in 1768 to the Southward between the Americans & Indians, as the only means of security to their Trade, and for the Peace & comfort of the parties engaged.

Indorsed: R from Mr. Inglis Feb. 1—1791.

[Q 54-2, p 695]

MEMORIAL AND PETITION OF THE MERCHANTS OF MONTREAL TRADING TO THE INDIAN OR UPPER COUNTRY.

To His Excellency the Right Honorable Guy Lord Dorchester Captain General & Governor in Chief of the Colonies of Quebec, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick and their dependencies, Vice Admiral of the Same; General and Commander in Chief of all His Majesty's Forces in the said Colonies and the Island of Newfoundland &c. &c. &c.

The Memorial and Petition of the Merchants of Montreal, trading to the Indian or Upper Country.

Humbly Sheweth,

That your Memorialists being largely engaged in the Indian or Upper Country Trade of the Province are not a little alarmed for the safety

of the property which they have trusted in the Indian Country, by reason of the late attempt of the Americans to establish by force a Post or Posts on the frontiers of the Province near to Detroit.

That should such attempt be attended with success, it is evident that the Indian Trade to the South of Lake Erie, must fall into their hands, to the loss and prejudice of the Province, in a sum not short of Thirty Thousand Pounds Sterling.

That from so near a vicinity to Detroit, your memorialists cannot help suspecting that views of obtaining possession of that key to the Western and North West Country, are strongly entertained by our rival neighbours; and they consider with much pain, that should they possess themselves of Detroit they will have in their power the means of commanding the whole Western and North Western Trade, which your memorialists esteem to produce of returns for British Manufacturies, chiefly in furs, to the value of one hundred and fifty thousand pounds sterling.

Your memorialists might remark other bad consequences which would follow, in particular to the new settlements, should our neighbors become masters of the Post of Detroit, but knowing that your Lordship can better discern than they can point out, the political injuries which the Province would sustain in such event, they confine themselves solely to the Indian Trade, of which from long experience and extensive dealings, they can speak with certainty and precision.

Your memorialists take the liberty of observing, that though the rout most generally used from Lower Canada to the Western and North West Country, is that of the Ottawa, or Great River, leading immediately to a communication with Lake Huron, considerably North of Detroit; yet such is the poverty of the Country, that unless provisions can be procured from Detroit, the North West Trade would cease to be carried on, because of the insupportable expence that would accrue, if transported in canoes by the Great River.

Your Memorialists are aware that by the Treaty of Peace in 1783, great part of the Indian Country was ceded to the American States, but having carried on the Trade of that Country as was usual before, and during the War, under the protection and safe guard of Government; Your memorialists not having since the Peace encountered any difficulties from the subjects, of the American States, have been led to extend the Indian Trade farther west than formerly, from which circumstance, their property and connections in that Country being greater, and more widely extended, any sudden check to their commercial pursuits would occasion their ruin; nor would a less period than five years be sufficient

for fully collecting & withdrawing their property, in the event of such measure becoming necessary, by the Posts falling into the hands of the United States.

Your memorialists can with confidence rely on your Lordship's watchful Government, the encouragement and protection which the Indian Trade has met with, assure them, that the best measures will be adopted for securing free intercourse of Trade to the Indian Country. Yet, in a matter of such magnitude, and consequence to your memorialists, they venture humbly to hope and suggest, that through your Lordship's representation, the Trade may not be interrupted for Five years to come, in order that the British Merchants may be enabled to collect and withdraw their property, and if at the end of that period, it would seem fit to the wisdom of Government to cede the Posts, that the Indian Country should be considered as neutral ground, free and open for the purposes of Trade, as well to His Majesty's Subjects, as to those of the American United States.

And your Memorialists, as in duty bound will ever pray &c.

MONTREAL 28th December 1790.

(Signed)

Todd, McGill & Co. Forsyth Richardson & Co.
Alexander Henry, Etre. Campion, G. Cotté.
M. Blondeaux
John & Andw. McGill
Nicholas Montour
McTavish Frobisher & Co.
D. Sutherland
A. Auldjo
Geo. M. Beath.

D.

Indorsed: 14.
In Lord Dorchester's to Mr Grenville No 79 of the 23d Jany. 1791.

[Q 50-1, p 61]

LORD DORCHESTER TO LORD GRENVILLE.

QUEBEC 23d January 1791.

[No. 79.]

SIR,

The inclosures give an account of the two actions fought near the Miamis Towns, in the Indian Country, between some of the Western Indians, and a force sent against them by the United States, under the

command of Brigadier General Harmar, together with an application to the commanding officer and Indian agent at Detroit in behalf of the Indians, for assistance, and the answer made to it.

These events have occasioned a memorial from the Merchants of Montreal interested in the Indian Trade, a copy of which is likewise inclosed.

Their apprehensions are confirmed by the language of Mr. Harmar's official letter, printed in the American Newspapers, from which it appears that our Traders were a principal object of his expedition—Had any of them fallen into his hands, they would most probably have been severely dealt by, which must naturally have created many complaints to Government and some embarassment; this must happen a little sooner or a little later, unless speedily prevented by a frontier Treaty.

The tenor of the act of the last session of the federal congress, for regulating the Indian Trade, and the stipulations entered into with those Indians, who attended the Treaty at Fort Harmar in January 1789 seem to breathe a similar spirit.

Supposing no attempt should be made upon Detroit itself, its importance will be much diminished, and the effects upon our trade nearly the same, if establishments are formed by the States at the mouth of the Miamis on Lake Erie, through which our trade to that part of the country passes.

The Commandant of Detroit appearing at a loss how to act upon the present occasion, I have referred him to, and in part repeated, my orders with regard to the Upper posts, issued soon after my arrival in this Country.

Some information concerning hostile designs of Spanish Emissaries among the Indians is also inclosed.

These accounts were received soon after the close of the navigation, and are now sent by Halifax to take the chance of the first conveyance from thence to England after the opening of the navigation, but having had a convenient opportunity to send them through the States.

No further intelligence has since been received from the upper country, the communication at the time being interrupted by the severity of the season.

I am with much respect and esteem, Sir,

Your most obedient and most humble Servant,

DORCHESTER.

The Right Honble W. W. Grenville.

[Q 50–1, p 21]

SCHEDULE OF ENCLOSURES RELATIVE TO ACTIONS AT MIAMISTOWN.

Schedule of the Inclosures.

1. Copy of intelligence concerning the approach of the American Army to the Miamis Towns, the towns being burnt by the Indians, and their conduct towards our Traders.

2. Copy of a letter from the Commandant of Detroit d. 20th Octr. 90 on the same subject, and concerning the conduct of Spanish Emissaries among the Indians.

3. Information concerning the conduct of Spanish Emissaries among the Indians—Detroit 20th October 1790.

4. Copy of a letter from Mr. Elliot dated Grand Glaize 23d October 1790 giving an account of a skirmish between the Indians and Americans on the 20th of October.

5. Copy of Mr. Godfroy's information d. Detroit 26th October 1790—concerning two actions between the Indians and Americans on the 20th and 22d October.

6. Copy of Mr. Elliot's information dated Detroit 28th October 1790, giving an account of a second action between the Indians and Americans on the 22d October, and concerning an intention of the Americans to attack Detroit in the Spring.

7. Copy of a letter from the Commandant of Detroit d. 5th November 1790, inclosing the information of Blue Jacket a Shawanese Warrior, his application for assistance, the answer to it and expressing the Commandant's desire to receive instructions.

8. Copy of the information of Blue Jacket the Shawanese Warrior.

9. Copy of the speech of Blue Jacket desiring assistance, and the answer.

10. Extract of a letter from the Commandant of Detroit d. 6th November 1790, inclosing the information of Simon Girty, concerning the American Army, their intention of establishing posts in the Indian Country, and that one of the chiefs of the Five Nations had gone to Philadelphia to concert measures for preventing the five nations from assisting their allies in the Western Country.

11. Copy of Simon Girty's information above alluded to.

12. Copy of a letter from the Indian Agent at Detroit dated 7th November 1790, concerning the critical situation of the Indians, their desire of retiring to the Mississippi, and his advice to remain where they are.

13. Copy of a letter from Joseph Brant dated Nassau 8th November 1790, concerning the events in the Indian Country, and other matters concerning Indian Affairs.

14. Copy of a memorial from the merchants of Montreal interested in the Indian Trade, stating their apprehension in consequence of the late events in the Indian country, dated 28th November 1790.

15. Copy of a letter to the Commanding officer of the Upper Posts, and to the Commandant of Detroit dated Quebec 20th of January 1791.

Indorsed: Quebec 23d January 1791. Lord Dorchester No 79 Rd 1st May (15 Inclosures) D.

[Q 50–1, p 24]

MAJOR JOHN SMITH RELATIVE TO INDIANS NEAR DETROIT.

State.

At a meeting of Indians at the River Raisin, tis said a Pottowatamy struck the Post, and after recounting his exploits finished by saying, perhaps he should kill some "English" too! tho' it is hard too, added He, taking up a medal of His Majesty which hung on his breast.

A trader, who was by, and understood the Language, challenged him, with ingratitude, when the Indian denied his Speech; but the Trader persisting in his perfect knowledge of what he had said; the Indian replied, that if he did say so, he was instigated to it, by Spanish Emissaries, who were endeavoring to gain their interest, against this and the other posts.

Several reports from Pottowatomys, seem to confirm this circumstance.

(Signed)

JOHN SMITH, Major 5th Regt.

Indorsed: In Lord Dorchester's to Mr. Grenville No. 79, of the 23d January 1791. D.

[Q 50–1, p 32]

CONVERSATION UPON THE STATE OF AFFAIRS IN THE WESTERN COUNTRY.

PHILADELPHIA January 31st 1791.

A Conversation.

Mr. Hamilton, Mr. William Macomb of Detroit and Lieutenant Colonel Beckwith.

Lt. Col. B.: Mr. Macomb, I think it for the honor of the King's Government, for its interests, and I really believe it for the interests of this

Country also, that the true state of things in the Western Country should be known, and if there are any misconseptions or errors arising from misinformation it seems desirable that they may be explained, under these impressions, and with Mr. H's permission, I shall ask you a few questions, and if you have no objections to them, I hope you will answer in as far as may be consistent with your knowledge.

Mr. H.: I shall be very happy to hear every thing Mr. Macomb may have to say on this subject.

Mr. Macomb: A conversation on this subject passed between Lt Col Beckwith and me on our Journey from New York to this place a few days ago, I am perfectly disposed to communicate every thing I know on the subject.

Lt. Col B.: You have lived several years at Detroit?

Mr. M.: Yes, I have.

Lt. Col. B.: When did you leave it?

Mr. M.: The 28th of September last.

Lt. Col. B.: Have you a general knowledge of the Western Country? and of the different Indian Tribes?

Mr. M.: I have a general knowledge of that part of it which lies towards Detroit, but am quite ignorant of the Country as you approach the Ohio, I know something of the Indians in general, and have a particular acquaintance with several tribes.

Lt. Col. B.: Were you ever at the Miami Settlements which have been destroyed by Brig. Harmar? and do you know what tribes live in that neighbourhood?

Mr. M.: I have been there, and know the country round it very well, it lies about two hundred and forty miles from Detroit, there are not more than about one hundred and twenty five men who reside on that point of land described by General Harmar, in the neighbourhood there are other Indians who obtained permission to settle there about two years ago for the purposes of trade.

Lt. Col. B.: Are you acquainted with the traders established there?

Mr. M.: Yes, I know them very well, and I am very sorry to observe the language used by General Harmar in his public letters, relative to those gentlemen, for such I must call them, and shall ever so consider them, these towns were the principal trading posts in the whole Western Territory, and six or seven very respectable houses were established there, three of the gentlemen are magistrates and all of them men of unblemished reputation. Ever since the commencement of the disturbances on the frontier of the states by Wabash Indians, which took place I believe the very year after the peace, these gentlemen on all occasions

recommended pacific measures to the Indians, in the neighbourhood of the Miami Towns, and I do believe they have rescued many prisoners, and have in the course of some years past laid out to the amount of four hundred pounds in this way without the smallest idea of recompense of any sort, as they liberated these prisoners immediately and sent them through a friendly Indian Country to Fort Pitt.

Lt. Col. B.: Do you think it possible that those gentlemen have at any time either directly or indirectly induced any of the Savages to commence or continue warfare with this country?

Mr. M.: Impossible, it would be the ruin of their trade, and the present Indian war will cause many bankruptcies at Detroit.

Mr. H.: This is a strong circumstance in opposition to the idea entertained by our military men, but however prejudicial a war may be to that part of your trade lying towards the Ohio, may it not operate otherwise on your fur trade to the Northward and Westward?

Mr. M.: We have only one trading post in the direction of Michilimakinac and that is of no great importance, the Great North West trade is unknown to us at Detroit.

Mr. H.: The Savages may have been induced to continue their depredations on our frontiers by the ready sale of their plunder, and in this the traders may have had an interest, may they not?

Mr. M.: Certainly not, the Indians who have for years past been occasionally down on your frontiers have I dare say carried off a variety of articles from the settlements, it is their practice to carry away every thing they find, but all articles of household furniture that are bulky, they throw into the Rivers and such clothing as they cannot use, they are fond of finery, they wear silk shirts made of gowns, handkerchiefs, and other parts of women's apparel, and with respect to horses they retain them for their own use.

Lt. Col. B.: Do you think that any presents have been made to the Indians at the Miami Towns during the last Autumn? or did you ever hear that presents were made them by order of Government at that place?

Mr. M.: Never I am persuaded.

Lt. Col. B.: Where are they usually made?

Mr. M.: At Detroit formerly, but of late years it has been found inconvenient to deliver them there, and it has been the regular practice to give them at the mouth of the Miami River, where it falls into Lake Erie, nearly forty miles from Detroit, and two hundred from the towns lately destroyed.

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Lt. Col. B.: Do you think that presents can be given in any shape to the Indians by our Indian Department at Detroit, without the order or approbation of the officer commanding there?

Mr. M.: You know very well that nothing can be issued from the King's Stores without the approbation of the officer commanding the troops, and no presents can be made but in the presence of a certain number of officers belonging to the Garrison ordered on that duty, this was the case last summer when Sir John Johnson was there, I was with him on that occasion at the Mouth of the Miami river already mentioned when the sale of a large tract of country was completed. Sir John Johnson took every opportunity of recommending peace in the strongest terms. I cannot also help observing that General Harmar did not attack the most hostile tribes, on the contrary I think that the majority of the Indians settled round the Miami Towns were disposed to be quiet.

Mr. H.: We sent to the Miami Towns during the summer and made several offers to them, to which they gave hostile replies and this determined the pointing the expedition against them.

Mr. M.: I must think that the Indians settled on the Wabash were infinitely more hostile and I have understood that Major Hamtramock found them so.

Mr. H.: That officer destroyed certain Towns and spared others from the ideas entertained of the dispositions of their owners.

Lt. Colo B.: I have one question more & it is a question of opinion altogether, What do you suppose will be the effects of the late expedition on the Indian tribes in general?

Mr. M.: Their uncommon success, their having but one man only in the first action and nine in the second lead me to believe that they will become infinitely more troublesome than formerly, and those tribes who have suffered may be expected now to join the others, whatever may have been their former dispositions.

Mr. H.: This will be so, and we have already found the effects of it, by the latest accounts from that Country.

Mr. M.: If General Harmar when he reached the Miami Towns had instead of attacking and destroying them sent a message and desired the Indians to make peace, he might have easily effected it in my opinion, and this would have been a better way than the sending a single messenger.

Mr. H.: I think that most improbable, this conversation has given a new light to many things in the Western Country and I am much obliged by it.

Indorsed: 2.

In Lord Dorchester's to Lord Grenville No. 84, of the 14th June 1791. D.

[Q 50-1, p 97]

JOHN BRICKWOOD TO LORD GRENVILLE.

My Lord,

Fearing your Lordship may not have rec'd from Lord Dorchester so late accounts as I have rec'd from Montreal from the Hostilitys commenc'd between the Indians & Americans I beg leave to lay before your Lordship the endors'd Extracts of Letters received yesterday—and as some of the gentlemen therein mentioned will have the Honour of accompanying the Merchants to-morrow by your Lordship's appointment, they will answer any Enquirys you may be pleas'd to make on that very alarming affair.

I have the Honour to be most respectfully My Lord
Your Lordship's very obedt Servant

Riches Court 1 Feby 1791. Jno. Brickwood.

The Right Honble Lord Grenville.

Indorsed: Riches Court 1st Feby 1791. Mr. Brickwood Rd the same day (1 inclosure).

[Q 54–2, p 686]

HENRY MOTZ TO LIEUT. COL. BECKWITH.

Sir, Quebec 10th February 1791.

Lord Dorchester has received your letter of January, intimating that the exertion of his influence with the Western Indians to bring about a general tranquility, would be considered in the United States as a friendly act, and that there was a disposition to give those Indians security in their lands and to take every fair method of making them quiet and easy.

His Lordship laments the present hostilities very much and wishes it to be fully understood, that the being instrumental in putting an end to these calamities would give him great satisfaction.

But there the matter rests, the means to effect an accomodation not depending upon himself.

You will easily perceive that his Lordship can take no steps without being authorized by one or other of the contending parties, nor without being specially informed of their designs, claims and pretensions.

I have the honor to be &c.

(Signed) Henry Motz.

Lieut Colonel Beckwith— D.

Indorsed:

In Lord Dorchester's to Mr. Grenville No. 82 of the 19th Feby 1791.

[Q 50–1, p 72]

HENRY MOTZ TO LIEUT. COL. BECKWITH.

QUEBEC 10th February 1791.

MY DEAR COLONEL,

I am ordered to acknowledge your letters of January, marked K. L. M, and to apprize you, that Lord Dorchester having no convenient opportunity at this time of writing to England, leaves it to yourself to communicate what you may judge interesting, by a direct conveyance, particularly if His Lordship's answer to the application for his interference with the Indians should lead to any further steps of consequence in that business.

Mr. ——— seems to be surprized at a certain reserve in England towards Mr. M. His Lordship has had no accounts of the progress of his negotiation, but thinks it natural enough, that the discussions with Spain should have occasioned some delay.

There is indeed an other cause, from the influence of which it is hoped Mr. M.—— is free, but which His Lordship is inclined to think has operated ever since the peace against a connection between the two countries—No doubt many gentlemen and some of high and distinguished character in the States, see through the clouds that have been raised with so much industry to mislead that people, but the general spirit and language for some years after the peace have by no means been of a conciliatory nature. This disposition appears of late to have in a great measure abated, particularly on the shores of the Atlantic; though there are still some indications of it; but in the Western Territory it would seem great pains are taken to keep it up at its original height. As this spirit operated, it would naturally produce a corresponding reserve on the part of our Government. And perhaps the wisest plan that could be followed by Great Britain, under such circumstances, was to leave the States time to reflect, and by their own good sense to find out that course, which is most consonant to their true interest.

It is not known here, whether any presents were issued to the Indians in the Miamies Country about the time of Mr. Harmar's expedition; but if it was the case, certainly none were given with a hostile intent.

No officer of the Indian Department would presume to act so opposite to his instructions, the contrary conduct having been uniformly enjoined upon all occasions ever since His Lordship's command in this Country, with regard to the Indian Department as well as the King's troops.

If the intelligence concerning Mr. Elliot shall prove true, His Lordship thinks it may be well for you to wait his arrival, and after com-

municating with him, to continue such further time, as you may conceive to be of advantage to the King's service.

I am &ca.

(Signed) HENRY MOTZ.

D.

Lieutenant Colonel Beckwith.

Indorsed: B.
In Lord Dorchester's to Mr. Grenville No. 82 of the 19th Feby 1791.

[Q 50–1, p 73]

LORD DORCHESTER TO SIR JOHN JOHNSON.

QUEBEC 10th February 1791.

SIR,

I have often expressed my concern at the hostilities between the United States and the Western Indians, and that I should feel great satisfaction in being instrumental in putting an end to these calamities.

I do not know how far this may be in my power, but wishing to be fully prepared, in case the opportunity should offer, you will be pleased to take such means, as you may think most effectual, to learn, with certainty and dispatch, the nature and extent of the specific terms, on which the confederated Indian Nations may be disposed to establish a general tranquillity and friendship, with the United States, together with the grounds of equity, justice and policy, of those claims and pretensions on which they may think it expedient, and incumbent on them to insist, for their honor and interest.

As the Indians themselves are the best judges of the extent of their own confidence, they should be made clearly to understand, that there is not the smallest desire to obtain any knowledge of their views and designs, but what they themselves of their own free choice may think proper to communicate.

I am &ca.

(Signed) DORCHESTER.

Sir John Johnson Bart. D.

Indorsed: C.
In Lord Dorchester's to Lord Grenville No. 82 of the 19th Feby 1791.

[Q 50–1, p 76]

REPORT OF LAND COMMITTEE RELATIVE TO THE SETTLEMENT OF DISCHARGED RANGERS AT THE MOUTH OF DETROIT RIVER.

SATURDAY 5th March 1791.

At the Council Chamber in the Bishop's Palace.

Present,

His Excellency the Right Honorable Lord Dorchester Governor,
The Honorable Alured Clarke Lieut Governor, and

The Honorable

Thomas Dunn	William Grant
Edward Harrison	Francis Baby
John Collins	Samuel Holland
Adam Mabane	Charles DeLanaudiere
J. G. C. DeLery	Le Cte Dupré
Henry Caldwell	

Esquires.

Concerning the Claims of certain disbanded Rangers & Loyalists in Hesse.

Read the Report of the Land Committee* on the claims of certain disbanded Rangers and Loyalists in Hesse 3d January 1791. Ordered to be entered.

The Report.

To His Excellency the Right Honorable Guy Lord Dorchester, Governor General of the Province of Quebec &c. &c.

"The Report of the Land Committee (consisting of Messrs. Finlay, "Collins, and Grant) upon the reference of sundry papers, relative to "the Transactions of the Land Granting Department in the District of "Hesse as far as concerns the settlement of certain discharged Rangers "& others at the mouth of the River Detroit.

"May it please your Lordship,

* For Journal of the Proceedings of the Land Committee see page 44. (Oct. 22, 1790. Q 58-2, p 311).

"In obedience to your Lordship's commands this Committee have, "at sundry meetings examined the Papers that accompanied your Excel- "lency's order of Reference of the 20th of last October, which contained "the transactions of the Land Office Board for the District of Hesse "between the months of August 1789 & the 13th of August 1790: And "as Report cannot as yet be made on various matters contained in the "Papers referred to the consideration of this Committee, they have con- "cluded to lay before Your Lordship without further delay, the situa- "tion of certain discharged Rangers, Loyalists and others now residing "at, & near Detroit, which in the opinion of the Committee presses for "immediate Relief.

"The Land Board of Hesse in their minute of the 11th of last June, "have stated "That these People had drawn lots of the Waste Lands "of the Crown, at the entrance of Detroit River, where Government "was desirous to promote a Settlement." That after they had received "certificates for location, but few of them could proceed to clear their "lands from want of Provisions and Tools, which they had been taught "to expect from Government."

"That those among them who had made no Improvement by clearing "or otherwise within the year were deprived of the Lots they had drawn "& they were given to other applicants. That notwithstanding their "disappointments in that quarter the greatest part of the discharged "Rangers are still resident in the Settlement, and that some of them "have now the means of improving Lands desire to obtain Lots at the "River La Franche not far from the mouth of Detroit River, even "without the assistance in provisions and Tools which other discharged "Provincial Troops and Loyalists had in the lower parts of the Prov- "ince, & which they conceive they have yet a right to receive from "Government.

"And the Board of Hesse proceed to note upon their minutes the "following opinion.

"That all such discharged Rangers, Loyalists and others who can "prove to the Board, that at the close of the war they were by any "general or special order of Government, intitled to Lands, Provisions "and Tools & did actually forego an establishment with these advanta- "ges in Nassau, or in any of the Lower Districts to forward a settle- "ment at the mouth of the River Detroit, promoted by Government, "should now be located and provisioned in the same proportion with "those who settled below, and if Provisions shall now be granted to "Persons of the above description it would conduce much to their true

" Comfort and Relief that they be issued only monthly, and upon proof " that they were actually improving their Lands."

" This Committee concurring with the Land Office Board of Hesse, " are humbly of opinion that the discharged Rangers, Loyalists and " others situated as has been set forth by the Board of Hesse and whose " names have been transmitted by that Board to Mr. Secretary Motz (a " copy of which is annexed to this Report) may obtain Grants of the " Waste Lands of the Crown upon the River La Franche or in any " other part of the Tract ceded to the Crown by the Indians in May " last, as they may chuse; and that they may further obtain Provisions " in the like proportion with those Issued to persons of the same " Description, who settled in the lower Districts.

" And should other people than those contained in the annexed List, " claim similar assistance on the same grounds, the Committee humbly " submit to Your Lordships, whether the Commissary of Provisions may " not have authority, upon certificate, from the Land Board of Hesse, " to serve out Provisions to them also:—And the Board may be instructed " to make a Return of the Names so added to the List, with the grounds " upon which each particular applicant may have obtained certificate " from the Board."

All which is nevertheless most humbly submitted to your Excellency's great wisdom.

Signed by order of the Committee.

Council Chamber, Bishop's Palace
Quebec 3d January 1791.

(Signed) Hugh Finlay
in the Chair.

[Q 51-2, p 400]

List of the names of discharged Rangers, Loyalists and others, residing at and near Detroit applying for Lands and Provisions, referred to in the foregoing Report:

Belonging to Col. Butler's Rangers.

Names.	*Occupations.*	*Residence.*
Serjt Danl Fields	Blacksmith	at Cap. McKee's
Serjt Danl McKillip	Farmer	New Settlement
Corp. Andw. Hamilton	Labourer	In this Settlement
Corp Edwd Nevill	Labourer	New Settlement
Samuel New Kirk	Farmer	River a French
Patrick Hill	Labourer	Indian Country
Peter Shank	Farmer	River a French
Jacob Quant	Labourer	Do
Thomas Parsons	Do	Do
Patrick Johnson	Do	At Capt McKee's
Eluh Wilcox	Farmer	New Settlement
John Cameron	Do	Do
William Memger	Do	Gross Island
Leonard Seralch	Do	Do
Jacob Seagon	—	At present down at Niagara
Peter Swarh	Voyager	Now at Saginah
John Wright	Labourer	River a French
William Yagor	Labourer	River St Clair
Nathan Lewis	Labourer	River a French
James Empson	Farmer	River St Clair
Robert Empson	Labourer	Do
Benj. Knap	Farmer	New Settlement
Thomas Decker	Labourer	In this Settlement
John Topp	Do	Do
Joseph Springfield	Labourer	In this Settlement
John Clawater	Do	Do
Jacob Ruhart	Farmer	New Settlement
John Dalton	Do	Do
Jacob Arnold	Do	Do
Thomas Williams	Blacksmith	River a French
J. Moss	Labourer	New Settlement
Matw Dolson, Volunteer	Tavern Keeper	Detroit

Names of three years' men discharged from 8th Regt.

Serjt James Donaldson	Publican	Detroit
Serjt John Doelimule	Trader	Do
Richard Earp	Labourer	New Settlement
J. Achford	Do	Do
Wm Duggan	Clerk	Detroit
J. Hall	Labourer	Do
Thomas Kidden	Do	Do
Edward Reddin	Do	Do
Joseph Windall	Do	—

H. KNOX, SEC'Y OF WAR, TO BRIG. GEN. RICHARD BUTLER.

WAR DEPARTMENT March 10 1791.

SIR,

I have the honor to inform you that the President of the United States in pursuance of powers vested in him by Law has been pleased to appoint you a Brigadier General of Levies to be raised for the term of six months & that during your command you will possess the rank of Major General by Brevet.

I will thank you Sir to inform me of your acceptance or non acceptance of this appointment in order that the President of the United States may be informed thereof.

I have the honor &ca

(Signed) H. KNOX
Secy of War.

The Honble Richard Butler Esqr.

Indorsed: No. 10.

[Q 58-1, p 146]

H. KNOX, SEC'Y OF WAR, TO COL. THOMAS PROCTOR.

Instructions for Colonel Thomas Proctor.

SIR,

Having offered to you the execution of a mission, on the part of the United States to the Miamie and Wabash Indians, and you having accepted of the same, you are to receive these Instructions as the rule of your conduct.

The great object of your long Journey is to impress the said Miamie and Wabash Indians with the candor and Justice of the general Government.

That the United States require only that they would demean themselves peaceably.

That should they refuse to listen to this Invitation, they only, will be liable for the evils which will fall upon, and crush them.

That this invitation is not made in consequence of any principles of fear, but from a desire to pluck them if possible out of the fire which is already enkindled.

The message which is herewith delivered to you will shew you the sentiments expressed to them, and you, and the Indians who may accompany you, are to say all that may be proper to enforce the said sentiments.

You have been informed of the measures taken with the Cornplanter, Bigtree, and Halftown, and other Senekas, who were in the city lately, to go to the said Miamie and Wabash Indians, with messages from their own Nation of similar import with the one with which you are charged.

You will therefore immediately repair to the Cornplanter's residence which is upon a branch of the Alleghany River near the Creek called Oyl Creek—make known to him your intentions and deliver him the speech herewith delivered to you for the Seneka and others of the Six Nations.

It is possible he may not be at home, in which case it will be important to dispatch instantly runners for him, or in case he should be councelling at Buffaloe Creek with the other parts of the Nation it may be proper for you to repair thither.

You are to endeavour by all possible means to induce the Cornplanter and so many others of the Chiefs as possible to go with you upon your Mission to the Miamie and Wabash Indians, and you will remember that it is of *the highest importance* that you should set off without the least delay.

Having obtained as companions the Chiefs of the Senekas and others you will proceed by land or water as shall be judged best to Sandusky upon Lake Erie, where reside the Wyandot and Delaware tribes of Indians. These tribes are our friends and in treaty with us, which as far as is known has been well observed by them.

You have also herewith delivered to you two messages, one to each of said tribes written by General St Clair who made the Treaties with them at Fort Harmar in January 1789.

You will inform them of the object of your Journey and desire that they will appoint some of their chiefs to accompany you agreeable to the General's desire in his messages.

You will proceed from the Wyandots and Delawares directly to the Miamie Town, where you will assemble the Indians together and speak to them in the style before mentioned.

If you succeed in persuading them to accompany you to Fort Washington, you will set out immediately with them, sending Captain Houdin and such chiefs of all the Tribes present, as shall be agreed upon, to the Wea or Ouatonon Towns on the Wabash, and to the other Tribes on that River and its vicinity, in order to persuade them also to repair to a treaty at Fort Washington.

But if upon using all your arguments to induce the Miamie Indians to repair to Fort Washington, you should fail, you must leave them, and with the friendly Indians who accompany you repair to Fort Washington.

Let it be impressed strongly upon your mind that every moment after you set out upon your Journey must be most industriously employed for you must if within the limits of possibility be at Fort Washington by the *5th of May next*, whether you succeed or not. This is of the highest importance as it is connected with collateral arrangements.

The great retardment to be apprehended will be at the Cornplanter's residence or in other parts of the Seneka Nation; but you will endeavour to render your stay as short as possible.

A knowledge of your character induces a confidence you will well execute the high trust reposed in you with all dispatch and *Redress*.

Your mission requires acquaintance with human nature, and the art of managing the hopes and fears of an uncivilized race of men. You will be careful not to promise more than is reasonable to the Indians who may accompany you, and all your promises of that sort shall be complied with.

Your business with the Miamie and Wabash Indians will be to persuade them to repair to Fort Washington, where they shall be treated kindly and justly, but you are not authorized to particularize to them any terms.

Considering the nature of the service it is proper to be explicit as to the terms you are to receive from the Public, which are as follows,

1st. Your reasonable expenses shall be borne by the Public and upon this point you will be careful to set down your expenses daily in order that a judgement may be formed thereon when your accounts are to be settled.

2ndly. As a reward for your services you shall be allowed the Sum of five dollars for each day while you are actually employed upon this business.

3rdly. If you succeed in bringing the real chiefs of the Miamie and Wabash Indians to a treaty at Fort Washington you shall receive the further sum of five hundred dollars.

4thly. In case you should in the course of the business be wounded or disabled from obtaining a livelihood by your personal exertions, attempts will be made to obtain for you a pension of a Lieutenant Colonel Commandant wounded in the service of the United States.

5thly. And in case you should unfortunately lose your life in the course of this business the same attempts will be made to obtain the pension of seven years half pay of a Lieutenant Colonel Commandant to your orphan children.

Captain Michael Gabriel Houdin a French officer of reputation who served in the late war in the Massachusetts line, will accompany you, in

the prosecution of this business, and in case of misfortune to you by sickness or otherwise he is to take these Instructions, and to pursue them as if given to himself.

Captain Houdin is to be allowed his expences and two dollars p day as a reward for his services.

And in case he should be wounded, or disabled, endeavours will be used to obtain for him a pension of a Captain wounded in the Military Service of the United States.

I have issued my warrant upon Joseph Howell to pay you six hundred dollars on account of your and Captain Houdin's expences, and for which sum you are regularly to account.

Your route will be from this City to Sombury and thence either directly for the part of the Alleghany where the Cornplanter lives, or to Tioga Point as you may find best. If you go through Wyoming enquire for a Captain Bladwin who has agreed to keep school among the Senekas, on account of the United States.

You will consider your business as secret, and enjoin the same to Captain Houdin.

Provided you should bring the Indians to Fort Washington you will stay there no longer than the treaty shall be accomplished; upon which you and Captain Houdin will return with all convenient speed to this city.

You will keep a Journal of your daily occurrences & deliver me a copy thereof when you shall deliver the report of your proceedings.

Given at the War Office of the United States in the City of Philadelphia, this eleventh day of March 1791.

(Signed) H. KNOX
Secty of War.

[Q 59–2, p 443]

H. KNOX, SEC'Y OF WAR, TO THE INDIANS.

A

To the Head men & Warriors of the Seneka Nation and others of the Six Nations.

BROTHERS,

Upon a late visit of the Cornplanter and others, of your nation, to the President of the United States, the great chief of the thirteen fires, it was agreed that some of the chiefs of the Six Nations should

repair immediately to the Miamie and Wabash Indians in order to explain to them the danger of their situation.

That the United States desired of the said Indians, only a peaceable conduct, and a regard to their own welfare. That it would be well pleasing to the President of the United States to embrace all the surrounding Indian Nation as Brothers and to promote their happiness by acts of kindness.

That while this was the sincere desire of the President of the United States, he was determined that all future murders and Invasions of the Indians should be punished severely.

The President of the United States is persuaded that if the Indians generally could see the kindness of his heart to them, and of his intentions to do them Justice, that they would one and all bury the red hatchet for ever.

He will therefore if obliged to chastise the disorderly Indians, feel all the pain that a kind father feels in chastising his disobedient children.

In order therefore that the Miamie and Wabash Indians shall be without excuse in the minds of the Six Nations, and other Indian Tribes, the President of the United States has determined to send them a solemn warning to their fate in case they continue their hostilities and he has for this purpose sent Colonel Proctor the Bearer with whom you are acquainted.

The President requests that you will immediately set out with Colonel Proctor either by Land or Water as he shall judge best.

That you would call upon the Wyandots and Delawares our friends and take some of them along with you to the Miamie and Wabash Indians.

That you would endeavour to persuade the said Miamie and Wabash Indians to accompany Colonel Proctor and you to General St Clair, the Great Chief of the United States on the Ohio, and there settle all disputes on terms of reciprocal Justice and humanity.

That on your faithful performance of this business you will be entitled to the Approbation, Friendship, & Rewards of the United States.

Given at the War Office of the United States in the City of Philadelphia this 11th day of March 1791.

(Signed) H. Knox
Secty of War.

[Q 59-2, p 451]

A

To the Head men and Warriors of the tribes of Indians of the Miamie Town and its neighborhood and inhabiting the Waters of the Miamie River, of Lake Erie, and to the Tribes inhabiting the Water of the River Wabash.

BROTHERS,

The President of the United States General Washington, the great Chief of the thirteen fires, speaks to you by this address—Listen attentively to him, for he speaks of things of the highest importance to your future welfare.

The white men and the red men inhabit the same country, and ought to be friends.

But the contrary has been the case, Injuries and hostilities have subsisted and the last year many lives were sacrificed on both sides.

This address to you is the offspring of a desire to save you from ruin. It is therefore of the last consequence that you should understand and receive it right; It is unmixed with fear, and dictated by the pure principles of humanity.

The President of the United States is anxious that you should understand your true situation, and the consequences of your persisting any longer in the exercise of hostilities.

The United States are powerful and are able to send forth such a number of Warriors as would drive you entirely out of the Country, it is true this conduct would occasion some trouble to us, but it would be absolute destruction to you, your women and your children.

The United States require nothing of you but peace, nay, they are desirous of making you understand the cultivation of the earth and teaching you how much better it is for human kind to have comfortable houses, to have plenty to eat and drink, and be well clothed, than to be exposed to all the calamities belonging to a savage life.

The offer of peace now made to you is for your good, and the great spirit above will approve it.

Reflect that this is the last offer that can be made, that if you do not embrace it now your doom must be sealed forever.

Receive them, the Bearers, Colonel Proctor, Captain Houdin and our Indian allies who accompany them with open arms.

After having pondered well upon the contents of this address and what may be further said to the same purpose call in your parties and fly with all your Head-men to Fort Washington at the Miamis of the Ohio—Send Messengers also to all the Neighbouring Tribes to come to the

same place and there make and ratify a firm peace with General St Clair the great officer of the United States on the Western Waters.

You will find the terms he shall dictate will be full of Justice, Moderation and Humanity

You are now the only Tribes with whom the United States have any disputes. The powerful Indian Nations South of the Ohio are our Allies.

The Six Nations of Northern Indians are at peace with us, and we are desirous of receiving you into the number of our friends, and to forget all the evil which has past. If you refuse all the Nations will approve and justify your punishment.

Given at the War Office of the United States this 11th day of March 1791.

H. KNOX
Secy of War.

[Q 59-2, p 454]

INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN BY H. KNOX, SEC'Y OF WAR, FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE FRONTIERS IN THE ENSUING CAMPAIGN.

SIR,

The President of the United States having, by and with the advice of the Senate appointed you a Major General in the Service of the United States, and of consequence invested, with the Chief command of the Troops to be employed upon the Frontiers during the ensuing campaign, it is proper that you should be possessed of the views of the Government respecting the objects of your command.

I am therefore authorized and commanded by the President of the United states, to deliver you the following Instructions, in order to serve as the general principles of your conduct.

But it is only general principles which can be pointed out. In the execution of the duties of your station, circumstances which cannot now be foreseen, may arise, to render material deviations necessary. Such circumstances will require the exercise of your talents. The Government possesses the security of your Character, and mature experience, that your Judgment will be proper on all occasions.

You are well informed of the unfavorable impressions which the issue of the last expedition has made on the public mind, and you are also aware of the expectations which are formed of the success of the Ensuing Campaign.

An Indian War, under any circumstances is regarded by the great mass of the people of the United States, as an event which ought if possible to be avoided. It is considered that the sacrifices of blood & treasure, in such a war, far exceed any advantages which can possibly be reaped by it.

The great policy therefore, of the General Government, is, to establish a just & liberal Peace with all the Indian Tribes, within the limits, and in the vicinity of the Territory of the United States.

Your intimations to the hostile Indians, immediately after the late Expedition through the Wyandots & Delawares, The arrangements with the Senecas, who were lately in this city, that part of the Six Nations should repair to the said hostile Indians to influence them to pacific measures; together with the recent mission of Colonel Proctor to them for the same purpose, will strongly evince the desire of the General Government to prevent the further effusion of blood, and to quiet all disturbances—and when you shall arrive upon the frontiers, if any other, or further measures, to effect the same object should present, you will eagerly embrace them, and the reasonable expenses thereof shall be defrayed by the Public. Colonel Proctor's Instructions, and the Messages to the Miamis &c are annexed, marked A.

It is however important to be remarked, that all the persons employed on this account, must, if practicable, return to Fort Washington, on or before, the 6th of May next, for the reasons which will hereafter appear.

But, if all the lenient measures taken, or which may be taken, should fail, to bring the hostile Indians, to a just sense of their Situation, It will be necessary that you should use such coersive means as you shall possess for that purpose.

You are informed that, by an Act of Congress passed the 2nd instant, another Regiment is to be raised & added to the Military Establishment, and provision made for raising two Thousand Levies for the term of Six Months, for the Service of the Frontiers.

The Plan for raising the said Levies is hereunto annexed marked B.

The second Regiment of Regulars will be recruited in the four New England States, excepting one company to be recruited in South Carolina, and another in the State of Delaware.

Recruits will be raised to complete the first Regiment, in the States from Maryland to New York inclusively.

The Recruits from the Regulars as well as the Levies will be marched by Companies as soon as they shall be raised, to Fort Pitt, there to receive your further orders.

It is contemplated that the mass of the Regulars, and Levies, may be recruited, and rendezvous at Fort Washington, by the 10th of July.

In this case you will have assembled a force of three thousand effective at least, besides leaving small garrisons on the Ohio, in order to perform your main expedition hereinafter mentioned.

But in the mean time if the Indians refuse to listen to the Messengers of Peace sent to them, it is most probable they will, unless prevented spread themselves along the line of frontiers, for the purpose of committing all the Depredations in their power.

In order to avoid so calamitous an event, Brigadier General Charles Scott of Kentucky has been authorized, by me, on the Part of the President of the United States, to make an expedition against the Wea, or Ouattanontows, with mounted Volunteers, or Militia from Kentucky, not exceeding the number of seven Hundred & fifty, officers included.

That you may perfectly comprehend this subject, copies of the Instructions given Brigadier General Scott and the powers vested in him, in conjunction with John Brown, Harry Innes, Benjamin Logan & Isaac Schuly, and dated the 9th instant are hereunto annexed marked C.

You will perceive by the said Instructions, that if the said Expedition be not prevented by you, on or before the 10th of May next, that it is to proceed according to the Instructions.

The period of the 10th of May has been fixed, in order to afford time for Colonel Proctor and the Other Messengers to return before the commencement of the said Expedition. You will observe that Colonel Proctor's Instructions are pointed, as to the time of his return.

You will also perceive by the Instructions to Brigadier General Scott that it is confided to your discretion, whether there shall be more than one of the said Expeditions of mounted Volunteers, or Militia.

Your nearer view of the objects to be effected by a second desultory expedition will enable you to form a better judgment, than can at present be formed at this distance.

The propriety of a second operation would in some degree depend on the alacrity and good composition of the Troops of which the first may have been formed—of its success—of the probable effects a second similar blow would have upon the Indians, with respect to its influencing them to Peace, or, if they should still be hostilely disposed, of preventing them from desolating the frontiers by their parties.

It is to be observed that in case of a second or third desultory operation that you will limit the numbers to be employed to five hundred.

The manner of their being mustered, both before and subsequent to their march, are stated in Brigadier General Scott's Instructions.

And, you will also judge, how far a desultory operation made at the time of the main expedition, would conduce to the general success of the service, or if a party of mounted Volunteers, or Regulars, or Levies, were to form part of your main force.

In case two such desultory operations should be formed from Kentucky, and you should decide upon a third of the same nature to support collaterally the main expedition, I suggest the propriety of your employing Brigadier General Sevier for the purpose.

If circumstances should lead you to decide in favor of employing him, you could send an express to him, between the forks of Hostien & French troad, so that he should have three weeks or a month to raise men; or perhaps it would be the best place to mount the battalion of levies, which is to be raised in the Territory of the United States South of the Ohio, and with such additions as you should order, put them under the orders of Brigadier General Sevier.

It is however proper to remark, that as the Expence of an Expedition of a mounted Corps would be very considerable, the probable advantage ought far to outweigh the risque and Expence.

If such operations should be successful, and a considerable number of prisoners should be taken, particularly Women & Children, it would have the certain effect of humbling the Indians and inducing them to sue for mercy.

You will observe that in the Instructions to Brigadier General Scott, which is to serve as a basis for the instructions of the commander who may succeed him, that all captives are to be treated with great humanity. It will be sound policy to attack the Indians by kindness, after demonstrating to them our power to punish them on all occasions.

Whilst you are making such use of desultory operations, as in your Judgment the occasion may require, you will proceed vigorously in every preparation in your power, for the purpose of the main Expedition; and having assembled your force and all things being in readiness, if no decisive indications of peace should have been produced, either by the Messenger, or by the desultory operations, you will commence your march for the Miami Village, in order to establish a strong and permanent Military Post at that place.

In your advance you will establish such posts of communication with Fort Washington on the Ohio, as you may judge proper.

The Post at the Miami's Village is intended for the purpose of awing and curbing the Indians in that Quarter, and as the only preventative of further hostilities. It ought therefore to be rendered secure against all attempts & insults of the Indians. The garrison which should be

stationed there ought not only to be sufficient for the defence of the place, but always to afford a detachment of five or six hundred men, either to chastize any of the Wabash or other hostile Indians, or to secure any convoys for Provisions.

The Establishment of said Post is considered as an important object of the Campaign, and is to take place in all events. In case of a previous treaty, the Indians are to be conciliated upon this point if possible, and it is presumed such arguments may be offered as to induce their acquiescence.

The situation, nature and construction of the works you may direct, will depend upon your own Judgment. Major Ferguson of the artillery will be fully capable of the Execution.

He will be furnished with three 5½ Inch Howitzers, and three Six Pounders & three three pounders, all Brass, with a suitable quantity of shot & shells for the purpose of the Expedition. The appropriation of these pieces will depend upon your orders.

Having commenced your march upon the main Expedition and the Indians continuing hostile, you will use every possible exertion to make them feel the effects of your superiority; and after having arrived at the Miami Village, and put your works in a defensible state, you will seek the enemy with the whole of your remaining force & endeavor by all possible means to strike them with great severity.

It will be left to your discretion whether to employ if attainable, any Indians of the Six Nations & the Chickasaws or other Southern Nations. Most probably the employment of about fifty of each, under the direction of some discreet and able chiefs, would be advantageous. But, these ought not to be assembled before the line of march is taken up, because they are soon tired and will not be detained.

The force contemplated for the Garrisons of the Miami Village, and its communications has been from a thousand to twelve hundred non commissioned officers & privates. This is mentioned as a General Idea to which you will adhere or from which you will deviate as circumstances may require.

The garrisons stationed at the Miami Village and its communications must have in store at least six months good salted meat, and flour in proportion.

It is hardly possible, if the Indians continue hostile, that you will be suffered quietly to establish a Post at the Miami Village; conflicts therefore may be expected, and it is to be presumed that disciplined valor will triumph over the undisciplined Indians. In this Event it is probable that the Indians will sue for Peace. If this should be the case,

the dignity of the United States will require, that the terms should be liberal.

In order to avoid future wars, it might be proper to make the Wabash, and thence over to the Miami, and down the same to its mouth at Lake Erie, the boundary, excepting so far as the same should relate to the Wyandots & Delawares on the supposition of their continuing faithful to the treaties. But, if they should join in the War, against the United States, and your army be victorious the said tribes ought to be removed without the Boundary mentioned.

You will also Judge, whether it would be proper to extend the boundary from the mouth of the River au Panse of the Wabash in a due West line to the Mississippi. Few Indians besides the Kickapoos would be affected, by such a line but this ought to be tenderly managed.

The modification of the Boundary must be confided to your discretion, with one single observation, that the policy and interest of the United States dictate their being at peace with the Indians. This is of more value than millions of uncultivated acres, the right to which may be conceded by some and disputed by others.

The Establishment of a Post at the Miami Village will probably be regarded by the British Officers on the frontiers as a circumstance of Jealousy. It may therefore be necessary that you should, at a proper time, make such intimations as may remove all such dispositions. This intimation had better follow than precede the possession of the Post, unless circumstances dictate otherwise, as it is not the inclination or interest of the United States to enter into a contest with Great Britain, every measure tending to any discussion or altercation must be prevented.

The delicate situation of affairs may therefore render it improper at present to make any naval arrangements upon Lake Erie.

After you shall have effected all the injury to the hostile Indians of which your force may be capable, and after having established the Posts and Garrisons at the Miami Village and its communications, and placing the same under the orders of an officer worthy of such an high trust, You will return to Fort Washington on the Ohio.

You will please to inform me of all the occurrences of your Expedition, in order to be submitted to the President of the United States, with such observations as may be necessary to form a comprehensive and precise Judgment of the Campaign, and of the further measures proper to be pursued by Government.

You will observe by the treaties with the Choctaws, Chickasaws and Cherokees hereunto annexed marked D. that the President of the

United States directed the observance thereof in the Proclamation of the 26th August last.

This Proclamation became necessary, as Information had been received that certain companies had purchased of the State of Georgia the pre-emption to almost the entire lands of the said Indian Nations, and that measures were taking in pursuance thereof, to effect settlements on the said Lands in direct violation of the said Treaties, and the Peace of the United States.

And information has lately been received that a certain Doctor O'Falton is levying Troops in Kentucky, and issuing commissions in an illegal manner, for the purpose of making certain Establishments upon the said Lands.

The conduct of the said Doctor O'Falton is considered of such a nature as that the Attorney of the District of Kentucky has been directed to commence a prosecution against him according to Law, and the nature of his offence; and in order that all concerned under him should be warned of their situation, the President of the United States has issued another proclamation which is hereunto annexed marked E. It is presumed the arrest of Doctor O'Falton, and the issuing of the Proclamation will operate to prevent the execution thereof; but if they should not, and the party proceed in the execution of their plan, it becomes an important consideration of the Legal Department, and you shall be informed of the result.

A military post at Bear's Creek called Occochappo below the Muscle Shoals upon the Tennessee has been considered as proper to prevent the usurpation of the Indian Lands and also at some proper place upon the Mississippi.

But the approbation of the Indians is essential to the Establishment of either, Governor Blount is to hold a Treaty with Cherokees in May next, and it is part of his Instructions to render that nation cordial to the measure of establishing the proposed Post upon the Tennessee.

The Post upon the Mississippi is attended with some difficulties relative to the Spanish Claims, and it is not to be attempted at present.

Indeed, the force required for the main Expedition will prevent the establishment of either Post until after the termination of said Expedition.

The object is now brought to your view, in order that you may upon consideration, suggest such further measures arising from information, as may be necessary to be adopted on the occasion.

It is proper to observe, that certain jealousies have existed among the people of the Frontiers relative to a supposed intercourse between their interests and those of the Marine States.

That these jealousies are ill founded with respect to the present Government is obvious. The United States embrace, with equal care all parts of the Union, and in the present case are taking expensive arrangements for the protection of the frontiers, and partly in the modes too which appear to be highly favoured by the Kentucky people.

The high stations you fill, of Commander of the Troops, and Governor of the Western Territory, will afford you frequent opportunities to impress the frontier citizens of the entire good disposition of the General Government towards them, in all reasonable things, and you will render acceptable Service, by embracing cordially all such opportunities.

The discipline of the Troops and their Economy in all respects, will come under your consideration.

Arrangements will be made for forwarding with the first company, which shall march, the arrears of pay for the last year, so far as the same can be ascertained without the muster Rolls. The Recruits which shall be engaged for the first Regiment and Artillery, will depend upon the surplus clothing upon hand upon the frontiers, reliance will be made upon the said surplus clothing for about five hundred & fifty complete suits. One quarter part of the Recruits of the first Regiment and the Artillery will be clothed and all will have Blankets. From the Quarter part which shall be completely clothed, the officers will make arrangements for rendering all the men comfortable. The second Regiment will be clothed.

For the Blankets which will be issued here, the number of which you shall be informed a deduction must be made from the clothing for the Troops, and the frontiers, and a transfer thereof made to the Indian Department for the purposes of the proposed Treaty.

The goods necessary for a Treaty shall be furnished and your Estimates upon this subject shall be duly regarded.

Medicines, instruments, tents and Ordnance Stores, and all other articles for the proposed Expedition will be forwarded.

Samuel Hodgdon, who has been appointed the Quarter Master, under your directions, will repair to the frontiers as soon as he shall have made the necessary arrangements here, of the supplies.

He will be entirely under your directions, in all respects, and he must produce your orders for all the general objects of Expenditures, such as Boats, Horses and other arrangements for transportation.

The provisions will be transported at the Expence of, and by the means to be provided by the Contractors.

To the Quarter Master's Department will belong the transportation of the Troops from Fort Pitt to the Rendezvous, and the return Transportation of the levies. The Transportation by land, or water, of the Ordnance Stores, hospital Stores, and such essential Baggage as you may direct upon the Expedition.

It would be unnecessary to be particular, to an officer of your Experience, on the article of a great quantity of baggage. The nature of the service in which you will be employed, will preclude the Idea of all Baggage, which shall not be indispensable for the existence of the officers & soldiers.

The horses therefore that you may require for such objects may not exceed the number of ———, as you will probably want them for several months, it will be more economical to purchase than to hire them, and after the Expedition to sell them again.

As Mr Mentyes the Inspector will be upon the spot, you will direct him to muster all the Troops as regularly as the service will permit. But the regulars and Levies must be mustered on their first arrival at Fort Washington.

You will please to appoint some skilful person to make actual surveys of your march to be connected (if the case will admit of it) by proper Astronomical observations, and of all Posts you may occupy, and transmit them to this office.

The Paymaster will place in your hands, the sum of three thousand dollars. This money will be for such contingencies as shall arise, either for intelligence, or the objects of the Indian Department, and for which you will account.

Besides the desultory operations before recited for the protection of the frontiers, the President of the United States has been pleased to direct that the Lieutenants of the several Frontier Counties of Pensylvania, Virginia and Kentucky should be invested with the temporary authority, and under the restrictions contained in their Instructions of which the paper marked F. is a copy.

You will perceive that the authority given to the said county Lieutenants has been great.

The continuance of the said Authority will depend upon you, although the protection to be afforded must be equal to the occasion, Yet the expence ought not to be unnecessarily continued. You will therefore upon being convinced that the Rangers which the County Lieutenants may call out in pursuance of the said authority would not any longer be necessary for the protection of the Inhabitants, direct the said Lieutenants to discharge the same on account of the United States.

It would be proper that when you issue such orders that it should be done by some responsible character, who can certify to you the time of the delivery, of such order, that the Public should not pay the expences of such Rangers after such notification.

You will judge how far a similar protection is to be extended to the Settlements, in the Territory of the United States, North West of the Ohio. The said copy has been transmitted officially to the said Secretary of the said Territory.

Horses and Equipments will be provided for the mounting of one hundred Dragoons, for the purpose of the main Expedition.

At the termination of the Expedition you will direct the Quarter Master to sell the Horses, excepting such as you shall consider as indispensably necessary for the communication of the Posts.

Although it is expected that you will have assembled at Fort Washington by the 10th of July next a force of three thousand effectives, consisting of regular Troops & Levies, besides a sufficient number for occupying the posts on the Ohio and Wabash, yet circumstances may possibly arise to prevent the expectation from being realized.

In this event the Expedition must not languish. In order therefore to supply the numbers essential for the Expedition, you must call forth in the name of the President of the United States, the Militia of the Frontier Counties of Pensylvania, Virginia, and Kentucky, for that purpose.

You will ground your orders issued upon this occasion, upon the Act of Congress of the 30th of April 1790 & 3d March 1791, and direct them to the Lieutenants of such of the Counties as will most readily afford the Militia required, agreeably to the following form, To wit,

"To the Lieutenant of the County of ———"

"Sir,"

"The President of the United States, has been authorized by the "two following Acts to call into service the Militia of the several States "for the purpose of protecting the frontiers, to wit, an Act entitled "An

"Act for regulating the Military Establishment of the United States "passed the thirtieth day of April, one thousand seven hundred and "ninety," and an Act intitled "An Act for raising and adding another "Regiment to the Military Establishment of the United States, and for "making further provision for the protection of the frontiers, passed "the third day of March, one thousand seven hundred and ninety one."

"And the President of the United States having by his Instructions "to me as the Commanding General of the Troops of the United States "bearing date the twenty first day of March one thousand, seven hun- "dred and ninety one, and communicated to me by the Secretary for the "Department of War, invested me with free authority in the premises, "I do hereby require you, as Lieutenant of the County of ——— forth- "with to detach of the Militia of said County ——— non-commissioned "officers & privates and the following commissioned officers to wit—— "——— —— The said officers non-commissioned officers & privates "to serve for —— months unless sooner discharged, and upon the same "pay & rations as to the Troops of the Establishment."

It will be important that the most perfect communication should be kept up between you and this office. The regular Post proceeds from this City to Fort Pitt every other Friday. An arrangement will be made after the 15th or 20th of next Month to obtain a rider to proceed to Fort Pitt, on the Friday which the post omits, so that the Communication will be weekly.

I earnestly request that you will make an efficient arrangement from Garrison to Garrison on the Ohio, so that I may receive correspondent information from you of the State of affairs.

Mr. Duer, the contractor for Provisions, is now in this City making the arrangements with the Secretary of the Treasury for the furnishing of the Provisions for the Troops under your Orders.

The number of Rations will be estimated, after you leave Fort Washington at 4000 p day.

The Contractor promises the highest exertions, in order to furnish the Rations which may be required, in due Season. As your arrangements and success will greatly depend upon his punctuality, it will be important that you should afford him all the facility which the public interests may require.

Such objects relative to the Troops, or the proposed operations as may not have been touched upon in the foregoing Instructions, and which may hereafter occur will be continued in future letters.

In the mean time I have the honor with the greatest sincerity to wish you all possible success.

Given at the War Office of the United States, in the City of Philadelphia, this twenty first day of March, one thousand seven hundred and ninety one.

(Signed) H. KNOX
Secretary of War.

A true Copy

(Signed) JOHN SMITH
Major 5th Regt.

[Q 59–2, p 414]

Extracts from General Knox's Instructions to General St. Clair.

"The Post at the Miami Village is intended for the purpose of aweing and curbing the Indians in that Quarter & as the only preventative of future hostilities."

"It ought therefore to be rendered secure against all attempts and insults of the Indians."

"The Garrison which should be stationed there ought not only to be sufficient for the defence of the place, but always to afford a Detachment of Five or Six hundred men either to chastize any of the Wabash or other hostile Indians or to secure any Convoys for provisions."

"The establishment of said Post is considered as an important object of the Campaign, & is to take place in all Events."

"Having commenced your march upon the main Expedition, and the Indians continuing hostile, you will use every possible exertion to make them feel the effects of your superiority; and after having arrived at the Miami Village & put your work in a defensible state, you will seek the enemy with the whole of your remaining force, and endeavour by all possible means to strike them with great severity."

"The force contemplated for the Garrisons of the Miami and its communications has been from a thousand to twelve hundred non com'd officers and privates."

"The Establishment of a post at the Miami Village will probably be regarded by the British officers on the frontiers as a circumstance of Jealousy. It may therefore be necessary that you should at a proper time, make such intimations as may remove all such dispositions. This intimation had better follow than precede the possession of the Post, unless circumstances dictate otherwise, as it is not the inclination or

interest of the United States to enter into a contest with Great Britain. Every measure tending to any discussion or altercation must be prevented."

"The delicate situation of affairs may therefore render it improper at present to make any naval arrangements upon Lake Erie.

Given at Philadelphia 21st March 1791.

(Signed) H. KNOX
Secy of War.

Indorsed: C. 5 12
In Lt Govr Clarke's No. 30 of 26th May 1792.

[Q 59-2, p 384]

LETTER FROM CAPT. JOSEPH BRANT.

Extract of a letter from Capt. Brant dated.

GRAND RIVER 24th March 1791.

"I have lately received a letter from the Revd Mr Kirtland that deep dark Presbiterian who have been at Philadelphia lately, you will see here of what he says as follows."

"The unhappy and unfortunate expedition to Miamie I am fearful will finally prove fatal to many Indians unless a speedy accommodation should take place. Do you think this practical on the part of the Indians? please to suggest your Ideas on the subject, You would also gratify some of your friends to give a particular and impartial account of the Engagement. He also desired me to write him a long Letter, which I did to gratify him and gave him his Belly ful of it.

I also received another letter from Ebenezer Allen from Genesee who likewise just arrived from Philadelphia and tells me much the same story that of Kirtland's. Congress seems wishes to be friends with the Indians, Allen tells me further that some of those Gentlemen even wanted to employ me with high wages and to send me among the Indians, whilst our young men will be gone to Detroit, I mean to go to Buffaloe Creek with some of the Chiefs here to sound also the minds of the five Nations about the present affairs that I may know how to act if I should go to the Southward. I am sorry to inform you that the packet was coming here not less than 14 days from Bay of Quinta, Captain McKee will receive the packet in seven days time for certain from this. About the lands at the mouth of the Grand River you seem much to wish that we should spare you at least six miles

up the River in order to have your new Settlement. to be in one String along the Lake up, the sentiments of the Indians here on this head seems to thought rather hard that they should give it back after its given to them. However they have agreed to give it up five miles and a half up the River, because six miles, it would take in a Seneca Settlement who we could not think to remove them as they are fond of their Place and a half a mile cannot make any odds with you.

The Deed or Grant for the lands here which you are going to give us we hope you will make the Deed or Grant near the same sort which General Haldimand first promised to us, we hope the Council would not restrict us too much otherways we shall look upon it not much better than a Yankee Deed or Grant to their Indian friends.

D

Indorsed: 23
In Lord Dorchester's to Lord Grenville No 84, of the 14th June 1791.

[Q 50–1, p 153]

DAVID LEISBERGER TO COL. A. MC KEE.

Huron River, March 26th 1791.

Sir,

I received your favor of 19th Instant by Mr. Edwards and am much obliged to you for your kindness in having our safety and tranquility so much at heart.

You mention in your letter—you had reason to believe that the danger we apprehend would perhaps not interrupt our planting this Season where we are now, but dear Sir since Mr. Edwards went to Detroit times altered and become more dangerous, three Indians who narrowly escaped came here three days ago who related that three of their company had been killed by the Militia on Beaver Creek and four or five more were missing.

We likewise had a report though which cannot be given out for certain as no-body hath seen it that five families of Indians in their hunting Cabbins on the heads Tuscaroroi were either taken or killed, because no body knoweth what is become of them.

It seems by the report that the Militia go out in parties, and if no army should come out, yet it will not be safe, and our Indians apprehending that, will not easily be persuaded to remain here but rather leave houses and fields and be glad a place where they can be at ease and without continual fear.

Considering all this we think it best to move from hence relying in your generosity that you will give us at least a nights lodging or until our matters are cleared up, and if the place you shall appoint for us should not suit us so extraordinary well, we will take it for the present as it is and be contented. We shall therefore as soon as possible move with our Baggage by the help of our canoes to the mouth of Sandusky, where a good harbour is for ships and I request the favour to send us a vessel or two to bring us over this Lake which will ever be thankfully acknowledged by our congregations in England and in this country but especially

Sir by your most obedient & humble Servant

(Signed) DAV: LEISBERGER.

Col. Alexr McKee. D.

Indorsed: 47
In Lord Dorchester's to Lord Grenville No. 84, of the 14th June 1791.

[Q 50-1, p 249]

COL. A. MC KEE TO SIR JOHN JOHNSON.

Extract of a letter from Alexander McKee Esqr to Sir John Johnson Bart, dated Detroit April 1st 1791.

"I am honor'd with your favour of the 24th January and 22d February, the former by the winter express, and the latter yesterday by messengers from the Grand River; and shall lose no time in communicating your directions therein contained in such manner to the several nations concerned as to afford the most probable means of bringing about the desired event, to which end I propose immediately to proceed to the foot of the Rapids on the Miamis where all their General Meetings have been held concerning the Indian Interest, and where only a sufficient number of the Respectable Indians of all nations can be conveniently collected to deliberate on affairs of so much consequence to this country; and which will be the only means of making the result of their Councils full and permanent, for it is now clearly evinced that the Partial Treaties that have been heretofore held with them has been the source of the present calamities.

I have written to Capt Brant on this head pointing out the engagements between the five Nations and Western Indians, and the part the former have heretofore taken in the affairs of the General Indian Confederacy which no doubt will induce him with some of the most Respectable Chiefs of the Five Nations to attend the perfecting a busi-

ness so essentially necessary to the Interest, Welfare & happiness of the Indians in general. It will also be requisite on this occasion, as well as from the distressed situation of the Indians to be a little more liberal in the distribution of the Provisions and other necessaries usual delivered to them at this season of the year, which I trust may meet yours and the Commander in Chief's approbation."

The report of another army preparing to visit the Indian Country from Kentucky has reached the Indians through a Prisoner and if true I fear will retard this Business and widen the Breach, on the other hand whilst the Indians are occupied in negotiation many hostilities will be restrained on their part which otherwise would be carried on. No attention or exertion in my power shall be wanting to carry into effect his Lordship's wish."

D.

Indorsed: 22.
In Lord Dorchester's to Lord Grenville No. 84 of the 14th June 1791.

[Q 50–1, p 150]

GEORGE WASHINGTON TO BRIGADIER GENERAL RICHARD BUTLER.

MOUNT VERNON April 7th 1791

SIR

The necessity of placing the Organization of the Virginia Battalion of Levies upon a certain footing before I leave Mount Vernon which I shall do this morning has induced me to authorize Colonel Darck who lives near Shepherds town in Berkeley County to appoint all the officers to the Battalion and when they are appointed to direct the Major to repair to Philadelphia to receive the orders of the Secretary of War and the other officers to commence the recruiting service.

Should Colonel Stall decline and Colonel Darck chuses to accept he will be appointed to command the regiment.

I have given this information to you to prevent any clashing in the measures which might be adopted to officer the battalion and as it might be best that you should see Colonel Darck as soon as you have finished what remains to be done in Maryland I have informed him that you are on your way through Maryland to Virginia for the purpose of completing the arrangements of both battalions informing him

that he is in the mean time to continue the service which I have requested him to perform.

I am &ca

(Signed)

G. WASHINGTON

Brigadier General Butler

Indorsed: No 8.

[Q 58-1, p 143]

LORD DORCHESTER TO COL. A. GORDON.

QUEBEC 14th April 1791.

SIR,

Notwithstanding some late pacific appearances it is not improbable that armed parties may again make their appearance in the Indian Country, and perhaps in the vicinity of the King's posts.

Common prudence therefore requires we should be on our Guard, and prepared to meet all events.

'Tis not enough that the posts under Your Command be in a thorough state of defence, you must be prepared to march forward should the turn of affairs render this absolutely necessary. To carry this operation into effect with proper importance a part of the garrison of each of the Posts of Niagara & Detroit with a considerable draft from the militia and some field pieces should be in readiness to move upon a short notice.

You will be pleased to inform me, with what force you think you may march forward from Niagara, and with what force from Detroit, should it be so ordered, and what you may still want for this purpose.

The Gunboats and King's Vessels should likewise be ready for service at a short notice.

I am &ca

(signed)

DORCHESTER

D.

Colonel Gordon

Indorsed: 25.

In Lord Dorchester's to Lord Grenville No 84 of the 14th June 1791.

[Q 50-1, p 158]

AN ACT TO AMEND AN ACT ENTITLED—ACT FOR PROMOTING THE INLAND NAVIGATION AND TRADE TO THE WESTERN COUNTRY.

[From the Quebec Gazette of April 14th 1791.]

Passed 11th April 1791. J. Williams C. L. C.

Chap. 1.

An Act To explain and amend the Act intitled, " An Act or Ordinance " for promoting the " Inland Navigation " and to promote the trade " in the Western Country.

Preamble

Royal Arms

Whereas it is expedient to the prosperity of the Commerce which it was the intention of the said Ordinance to encourage, that it be unclogged with any unnecessary impediments.

Effect of the Oath to the manifest.

Be it therefore enacted by His Excellency the Governor and the Legislative Council, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, that the oath to the manifest of the Cargo of such vessels trading to the Western Countries which by the said Act are required to have Registers, shall suffice as to such articles as are not shipped upon the private account of the Chief Navigator, if he shall swear that the quantities and qualities are in his manifest stated according to his Bills of Lading, and that the manifest doth express the whole thereof according to the best of his knowledge and belief, and likewise every article of trade on his private account or on account of any person whatsoever. And be it further enacted by the same authority, that as often as the vessel may be seized for not being documented as by the Act is required, it shall not expose to confiscation either the vessel or her apparel and furniture, or the Property therein, or any of the Shippers, not being privy thereto, or concerned therein, provided they shall respectively be His Majesty's good and faithful subjects residing within His Dominions.

Undocumented Vessels not exposed to confiscation.

Proviso.

But for the prevention of Frauds in the Navigation and Commerce aforesaid, Be it further enacted by the same authority, that as often as any vessel shall be found sailing on the interior Lakes or Rivers, from any part of His Majesty's Territories, not documented as by Law directed, the Captain or Chief Navigator shall not only be answerable to all and every Person and Persons who may receive loss and Damage thereby, but shall incur a penalty of two Hundred Pounds to His Majesty, to be sued for and recovered in any Court of Justice within this Province, one third of which forfeiture shall

When the Captain shall be answerable.

And incur a fine of £200.

belong to the Person or Persons suing for the same; And for the more secure recovery thereof such Captain or Chief Navigator shall be detained or imprisoned until he shall have entered into recognizance in double the said Penalty, with two sufficient sureties in the Judgement of one of the Judges of the Common Pleas of the District of the Port, Post or Place to which he may be brought, personally to appear in the Court of King's Bench, within one year from date of such recognizance, there to answer to any suit to be brought against him for the said Penalty, and to abide the Judgment of the said Court.

In case of acquittal or discharge, no costs to be recovered if reasonable cause of seizure or prosecution be inserted in the minute.

And be it also enacted by the same authority, that whenever the Court, before which any proceedings may be had for any such seizure or Penalty, shall give judgment for the acquittal of the Property seized, or the discharge of the Party prosecuted, but shall at the same time cause to be entered in the minutes of the Court, that the Prosecutor had reasonable cause for making the seizure or commencing the same suit, the owner or Defendant shall not recover any Damages or Costs against any person concerned in such seizure or prosecution.

No licence for trading necessary.

And to the end that the Trade to the Western Districts and Indian Countries may be free and open to all His Majesty's Inland Dominions and Territories whatsover.

Be it enacted by the same Authority, that from and after the publication of this act, it shall not be necessary for any of his Majesty's Subjects, carrying on Trade, or other stated Residents of this Province, to take out any where or from any Person or Persons any Licence, Pass Permit or other writing whatsoever, for going into or trading with the Indians or other Inhabitants of the Western Countries or Counties of this Province, or Territories whatsoever, or for the carrying or conveying thither or elsewhere, in Boats, Battoes, or Canoes any goods, wares or Merchandize, or Provisions, or other effects not specifically prohibited, or for returning with the same or any Part thereof, or with the Produce in Bever Furs or skins or such other effects as may be legally carried, transported or imported, nor to subject Traders to take Licences for the sale of Strong Liquors to the Indians except at a fixed Residence in a settled Part of the Province for keeping a House of Public Entertainment, as is required by an act of Parliament passed in the fourteenth year of His Majesty's Reign entitled "An Act to establish a Fund towards further "defraying the charges of the Administration of Justice and support "of the Civil Government within the Province of Quebec in America,"

Nor for the sale of Strong Liquors

Exception

any Law, Ordinance or Regulation of this Province heretofore made or passed to the contrary notwithstanding.

Proviso

Provided always nevertheless, and be it enacted by the same authority, that it shall and may be lawful for His Excellency the Governor or Commander in Chief for the time being, by and with the advice and consent of His Majesty's Council, to restrain the Trade and Commerce to any Part or Place of the said Western Countries and Inland Territories and regulate the same with any of the Indian Tribes, or other Inhabitants thereof, and likewise to restrain and regulate the sale and distribution of Spirituous Liquors in all Forts and Garrisons and other places where Indians resort and of Arms, Ammunition and other warlike Naval Stores, when and so often as the Public Safety and Peace may require, declaring the same from time to time by Proclamation under the Great Seal.

How the Trade may be restrained

And in order to prevent the accidents that happen to Canoes, the Property therein, and the navigators thereof in the dangerous Passage down the Rapids of the Outawais or Great River, between the Lower Carrying-place of the Chaudiere and the Allumets, by reasons of Persons selling Spirituous Liquors to the Canoe-men, thereby intoxicating them, and rendering them incapable to conduct and manage the Canoes in the said Rapids, to the great Injury of the Trade and the risk of the Lives of the Navigators.

No Liquors to be sold or given to the Canoe-men coming down the Rapids in the Outawais River

Be it enacted by the authority of the aforesaid, that every Person who shall be convicted before any one or more Justices of the Peace upon the oath of the Informer and one more credible Witness, of having sold or given any Spirituous Liquors to any Canoe-man in his passage down the Outawais or Great River, between the Lower Carrying-place of the Chaudiere and the place called the Allumets, shall forfeit and pay the sum of Twenty Pounds and lose the benefit of his Licence, if any he has, for selling Spirituous Liquors, which Penalty may be sued and recovered summarily before one or more Justices of the Peace and applied as aforesaid.

And whereas it is made Penal to settle in the Indian Villages without a Licence, by an Act or Ordinance of this Province passed in the seventeenth year of His Majesty's Reign entitled "An Ordinance to "prevent the selling of Strong Liquors to Indians in the Province of "Quebec, as also to deter Persons from buying their arms or cloathing, "and for other purposes relative to the Trade and Intercourse with

"the said Indians,"—Be it further enacted by the same Authority, that nothing in the said Act shall be deemed to affect such as are lawfully employed in the Inland Commerce, or such as resort to this Province with the intention *bona fide* of settling the Waste Lands of the Crown, and who are in the Course to conform to the Regulations by the Government for that purpose made and established so declare upon Oath when thereunto required, or to any other His Majesty's liege Subjects, but to such only as not being His Majesty's subjects shall arrive at any Port, Post or Place where any Magistrate may reside, and shall not within twenty four hours hereafter take the Oath of Allegiance to the British Crown, being required, and shall refuse to take the Oath in this clause first above-mentioned, such Defaulter shall incur a Penalty of Ten Pounds, and may be committed and proceeded against as concerned in illicit Trade.

The Ordinance of 1777 not to affect Persons employed in the Inland Commerce or those settling on the Waste Lands of the Crown.

Provided always nevertheless, that it shall be lawful to all persons to pass and repass any Part of this Province, with a permission under the Signature of such Person as shall be authorized to grant the same by any instrument to be issued by the Governor or Commander in Chief for the time being under his Hand and Seal at Arms, such Person conforming to the Conditions, Regulations and Terms in his Permission prescribed or expressed.

Proviso

Provided also, that nothing in this or the above-mentioned Act shall be construed to extend to any Vessel navigating without a manifest, Pass, or clearance from the Head of the Bay of Quinty or any other part of the District of Luneburg, and not passing beyond the Islands called the Grand Isle and Isle of Tonty to the Southward and Eastward.

Proviso Respecting Vessels not passing Grand Isle of Tonty.

DORCHESTER.

[Q 50-2, p 600]

A COUNCIL RELATIVE TO THE UNITED STATES INDIANS.

NIAGARA 14th April 1791.

SIR,

In consequence of a Message with a Belt, from the Chiefs of Buffaloe Creek, requesting myself and the other persons of the Indian Department to attend at a Council to be held at that place, stating that some persons in authority from the United States was to be there, and that they wished me to hear what he had to say.

The Commanding officer thinking it proper for me to comply with their request, I left this place on the 14th Inst and proceeded to Fort Erie. The 15th I dispatched Mr. Johnston, Interpreter across the River to Buffaloe Creek, to know if the chiefs were prepared for the Council, but finding they were not ready, I did not think it requisite to cross the River until they could assemble. I remained at Fort Erie the 16th. The 17th I went to Buffaloe Creek accompanied by Captain Burrough, commanding Fort Erie, when a few of the chiefs met me and told me that they could not be ready in less than two days as their people were a great deal scattered.

On the 19th we met in Council when I addressed them as follows.

Brothers,

Agreeable to your request I am now come to meet you, and am ready to attend to what you have to say, I now return you the Belt of invitation.

The Farmer's Brother the principal Seneca Chief Speaker—

Brothers,

We return Lieut Colonel Gordon and yourself our sincere thanks for your readiness in complying with our request, your attendance at this place. We are also happy that Capt Brant was at Niagara when you received our message and you took him by the hand and brought him with you.

The usual ceremony of condolence was then performed.

Brothers,

At the time when we sent you a message requesting you to meet us in this council, we received word from O'Bale, that a great man from the Governor of New York accompanied by a French gentleman would be here in the space of three days time upon business of importance with us, and as we wished to do no Business without the knowledge of the King our Father, we sent for you to be present in order to hear what they might have to say. We are sorry for the disappointment as they are not come agreeable to the word we received.

Colonel Butler then asked them if they had any knowledge of the business that this great man was coming upon? To which the speaker replied they had heard a little about it.

They understood that part of his business was to inform them that the Americans and the Western Nations are now at War, and that he wished to consult with the Six Nations on this affair and to take them

by the hand, and hoped they would accompany him to the Westward in order to make a peace with those Indians and the United States.

Lieut Colonel Butler informed them that it was not in his power to wait the arrival of this American the time of which appeared uncertain but hoped when he did arrive and the Chiefs knew the business he was come upon, that they would without loss of time dispatch two or three of their principal chiefs to inform him of it, to which they immediately assented.

The Corn Killer a principal Seneca Chief then produced the annex'd speeches from Timothy Pickering Commissioner in behalf of the United States which they received last fall at Tioga and requested they might be publickly read.

Captain Brant then addressed them as follows.

Brothers,

As we the Six Nations have received many invitations from our Brethren to the Westward the Chiefs of the Grand River give their advice and opinion that it is necessary for some of us to go to see them as Visitors, and to know what they are about, I recommend this matter to you, and propose going myself as one.

Farmers Brother Speaker.

Brothers,

As the day is far spent and we have something further to say, we propose deferring it till to-morrow morning when we will meet you again in Council.

20th. The Council having met the Fish Carrier spoke as follows, addressing himself to Captain Brant.

Brothers,

We highly approve of your advice respecting a visit of our Western Brethren. I speak in behalf of three nations vizt the Cayugas, Tuscaroras, and Teddioghronies.

The Chiefs of the Senecas and Onondagoes then approved of Capt. Brant's Proposal in the same manner.

They then appointed the grandson of the late Syengaraghta to the place of that chief, after which the Council broke up.

[Q 50-1, p 167]

GOV. A. ST. CLAIR TO THE DELAWARE NATION.

To Captain Pipe and the Chiefs and Warriors of the Delaware Nation.

BROTHERS,

It gave me great pain when I heard of the murder of some of your people, who were peaceably selling their peltries at Beaver Creek, by some bad White People. I assure you brothers, my heart bleeds for them, and could you see it, you would find nothing but good therein towards the Delawares.

BROTHERS,

The President of the United States will be very angry at this affair, and the people who committed the murder, will certainly be brought to punishment, be assured my brothers, that it is held by Government and by all good people in the utmost abhorrence, and that it will be punished in the same manner, as if it had been so many white people they had killed; and the Governor of Pensylvania whose proclamation I send you, that you may see how much it is disapproved of has offered a thousand dollars for the taking of any of them that were concerned in it.

A String of White Wampum.

BROTHERS,

This is a very unfortunate affair and has happened at a very bad time when we hoped that from the misfortunes which befel some of the Indian nations last Fall, they might have wished for peace; and that we might have all lived together in this land which has given us birth, like Brothers. But you Brothers have likewise killed a great many white people and taken others away prisoners; Tho the Government and all good people are very angry that your people have been killed, they are very angry likewise, that our people have been killed.

A String of Black & White Wampum.

BROTHERS,

You may say that the mischief that has been done to us was not done by you, but by other bad Indians, but you promised me that you would give us notice when any parties of bad Indians, came to do mischief to our people, had you done this, the mischief would probably not have happened to either, and certainly would not have happened to you; for we should have known that you were our true friends, and nobody would have done you any harm, but on the contrary, everybody would have been kind to you and have taken care of you.

Brothers,

We promised each other further that when any mischief was done on either side, we would complain of it, and that the guilty persons should be given up to be punished. Had you made your complaint, and not taken revenge at your own hands, those people who murdered yours, would have suffered before this time; but now, that you have revenged yourselves it has become more difficult, you know brothers that there are foolish bad people among you and there are some amongst us too—when any of them do mischief if we return mischief for mischief to each other, we can never have peace long. Let us both remember the promises we made and do our best to prevent and restrain the bad people on both sides, and when in spite of all we can do, it does happen, let us make a just and reasonable satisfaction to each other by bringing the guilty persons to due punishment, as we have solemnly promised.

A String of White Wampum.

Brothers,

When the Shawanese & Miamis forced us last year to make war upon them, I informed you what we were going to do, & warned you to keep yourselves at a distance from them, for the United States did not wish that any harm should come to the Delawares. This was agreeable to the promise we made you at the treaty of Muskingum, and what the United States promise, they will surely perform. Brothers, the United States have again given those nations an offer of peace—if they will hearken to it all may be well yet, if they will not hearken to it, take my advice my Brothers, (which comes from a sincere heart that is good towards you the Delawares) sit still at home and leave them to themselves; why should you involve yourselves in their ruin.

Brothers,

If the Shawanese & Miamis are for peace, they will send to me at Fort Washington very soon, I have given them a little time to consider of it; If the friends of your people who were killed at Beaver Creek, will come to that place at that time, I will satisfy them for what the bad people robbed them of, for so I am ordered by the President of the United States.

Brothers,

With this Wampum I wash away the tears from your eyes and from our eyes for the loss of our brothers. I bury their bones deep in the

earth and strew leaves and earth over their blood that neither of us may ever be troubled at the sight of them hereafter. Farewell.

(Signed) Ar. St Clair
Governor of the Territory of the United States,
North West of River Ohio.

Fort Harmar 20th April 1791.

[Q 52, p 244]

J. KNOX, SEC'Y OF WAR, TO BRIG. GEN. RICHARD BUTLER.

War Department April 21st 1791.

Sir,

I write this letter to meet you by hazard.

Colonel Drake accepts the command which you probably know.

One hundred and thirteen suits of clothing and tents for one company, were sent from this city yesterday by land, to Winchester in Virginia & the same quantity to Hagerstown, and the quantities necessary to complete each Battalion will be forwarded in ten days hence.

I have not received any information of the Levies of this State—part of the clothing has been forwarded and the remainder will follow in quick succession.

One hundred levies of the Jersey Battalion will march from Trenton on the 25th or 26th and about the same time the companies of Armstrong and of the State of Delaware; and I shall to morrow send some person to march those who shall be in Carlisle, much injury has arisen for want of a Major at that place.

I pray you to make every arrangement in Virginia and Maryland entire and enjoin on the commanding officers a correspondence with me.

I have the honor to be &ca

(Signed)
J. Knox
Secy. of War.

Major General Butler.

Indorsed:—No 11.

[Q 58–1, p 147]

LT. COL. BUTLER TO SIR JOHN JOHNSON.

Extract of a Letter from Lieut. Colonel Butler, Deputy Agent of Indian Affairs—dated Niagara—24th April 1791.

"About the 1st Instant I received Intelligence by two Indians from Buffaloe Creek that a Party of Chippewas from Cayahago river on Lake Erie had killed the Americans at Cassawago on the Venango river about fifty miles from Presqu' Isle, and had sent threatening messages to the Six Nations, which alarms them a good deal, as the Chippewas are still about Presqu' Isle and say they are very angry with the Six Nations for their Deceit."

"On the 10th Instant I received a Belt of invitation from the Chiefs of Buffaloe Creek, requesting Colonel Gordon, myself and the Indian Department, to meet them in Council at the place in the space of three days, as they expected a visit from O'Bale, who was conducting to their Council Fire, a great man from the Governor of New York, accompanied by a French Gentleman, and that they wished me to hear what these people had to say, Colonel Gordon thinking it necessary for me to comply with the request, I accordingly left this with Capt. Brant, but was much disappointed as I was detained there a long time almost to no purpose, I enclose you their speeches to me on that occasion. Capt Brant left this yesterday and means to proceed to Detroit, which the Five Nations have approved of as you will see by their speech. This vessel sailing immediately on my return prevents me from having my dispatches compleated to go by her, I have annexed a copy of all the American Speeches for your Information. The day before I left Buffaloe Creek a nephew of O'Bale came in and added to the above Intelligence that it was not from one State, that the Council was to be with, but that a number of Americans were coming to the Council at least one or two from each State, and that their Business with the Six Nations was to take them by the hand and endeavor to get them to accompany them to the Western Indians in order to effect a peace with those Indians and the United States.

D.

Sir John Johnson
Bart.

Indorsed: 29.
In Lord Dorchesters to Lord Grenville No 84 of 14th June 1791.

[Q 50-1, p 165]

COL. A. MCKEE TO SIR JOHN JOHNSON.

MIAMIES RAPIDS April 29th 1791.

DEAR SIR,

I have been at this place some time past endeavoring to promote the meeting proposed, in order to bring the Indians to some decisive determination on the means most likely to facilitate a favourable termination to the unhappy troubles in this country; but the preparations apparently making on both sides, with the Hostilities committing also by both, tends daily to widen the Breach, and remove to a greater distance so desirable an event.

I shall however remain here as long as there is a probability of effecting anything amongst them conformable to Your Instructions.

The inclosed Speeches, which the Hurons have received from Muskingum were delivered to me yesterday and would certainly answer a very good purpose, had they not been accompanied at the same time with accounts of the detention of several Indians who went there to Trade. Some of whom are now present who made their escape from thence; added to this there is a Report confirmed by Prisoners that there is actually a considerable Force in motion to enter again the Indian Country, corroborated by an intercepted Letter herewith sent you, the 2000 new Leveys mentioned in it under the command of General R. Butler, is evidently destined for service in the Indian Country, his knowledge of it from having formerly traded among them it is probable will bring him early into some part of it. I have just received information that the Indians have taken Sundry Boats on the Ohio with a great deal of valuable plunder, these being the most material circumstances which I have at present to inform you of, have the honor to conclude with the Greatest Respect.

Dear Sir,

Your faithful & obedt Servant

(Signed) A. McKEE.

Sir John Johnson
Bart

I hope on my return to Detroit if my private affairs would require it that you'll have no objection to my going to Canada.

D.

Indorsed: 41.
In Lord Dorchester's to Lord Grenville No 84 of the 14th June 1791.

[Q 50-1, p 230]

GOV. A. ST. CLAIR TO THE CHIEFS AND WARRIORS OF WYANDOT NATION.

To the Chiefs and Warriors of the Weyondote Nation.

My Friends,

By Mr Meigs I some time ago sent Information to you of the Expedition which was intended against the Shawanese & Miamies, but none of you were at home, no doubt the Speech was delivered to you on your return, as it was left at your Town, but I have not heard from you since; nor from the Delawares, which does surprize me a little.

The Shawanese and Miamies my friends have long been very foolish. You may well remember your having told me yourselves that they were foolish nation; that you would send to them once more, and give them good council, and Dewintal was appointed to go upon the Business; and that if they would not hearken to you, we must whip them. I do not know Dewental was received; But I know very well they did not follow Your Council, for they became every day worse and worse, till the Resentment of the United States was roused against them, and they directed them to be punished. It was to acquaint you with that circumstance, and to make you and the Delawares easy in your minds, with regard to the force that was assembling (as we had promised each other) that I sent Mr Meigs.

The United States my Brothers always keep their words with all the world.

Brothers,

I am sorry for the Shawanese and Miamies—they have brought great trouble upon themselves. But I had pleasure on being informed that the Weyondots and Delawares kept themselves at a distance from them and would have nothing to do with them, it would pain me much brothers if any evil should befall the Weyondots.

Brothers,

I likewise sent a Speech to the Ottawas and one to the Chippawas by our Chief Warrior, but he could not get them sent forward and brought them back to me. I now send them to your care, and request you to give that to the Ottawas to Niqushaway, and the other to the Chief of the Chipawas. It is right our friends should know what we are doing and as the United States will ever act with perfect good faith, they having nothing to conceal. They do not even now hate the Shawanese & Miamies and if they would come to their senses, and do what is just and right, they would take them into their friendship,

this you may tell them, but they are a foolish People, and always have been so. I fear they will never do what is good for themselves.

Brothers,

My love for the Weyondots continues, and I hope ever will. Farewell, from your friend.

(Signed)

Ar. St Clair

Governor of the new territory of the United States Northward of the Ohio.

"String of White Wampum."

Indorsed: 42.
In Lord Dorchesters to Lord Grenville No 84 of the 14th June 1791.

[Q 50-1, p 232]

GOV. A. ST. CLAIR TO NEGUSHWAY THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF OF THE OTTAWA NATION.

To Negushway the Principal Chief of the Ottawa Nation.

Brother,

With this you will receive a copy of the speech I sent to you by our Chief Warrior when he led the Army against the Shawanese & Miamies, he could not find an opportunity to forward it and brought it back to me.

Brother,

I was very sorry when he brought it back because if you had received it, you would have known that no mischief was intended against your nation.

Brother,

I send it to you now that you may be sensible of the Honest manner in which the United States conduct themselves and place confidence in what they tell you. Brother they will keep their word with you, and every other nation, they hold fast the chain of Friendship between them and the Ottawas.

Brothers,

I am sorry for the mischiefs the Shawanese & Miamies and some of the people of the Wabash have brought upon themselves and took great pains with them to prevent their drawing down the vengeance of

the United States but they were deaf and would not hear—I told them what would surely be the consequence but it was still the same, because the Injuries they committed were not punished immediately they imagined perhaps that the United States were afraid of them and that they might do to their people whatever they pleased.

The United States are steady in their friendships, they are not easily provoked, but when they are provoked terrible in their Resentment.

I told truth Brothers when I said that they loved peace and be assured that I will never tell you a lie, they know war to be a great evil and avoid it as long as it is possible, but they are not afraid of it, and why my Brothers should the Red and White people destroy one another, are they not brothers, has not the same earth of this Continent given birth to both of them and is it not sufficient to nourish both, why then should they not be friends. They ask nothing but justice and will render justice to all men, for without it Peace which is the greatest good can not long subsist, follow it then and the United States will love you and cherish you, hold fast the chain of friendship and we can be of advantage to each other.

Brother,

I am afraid some of your people have been foolish, your nation is a good deal dispersed, and they all look up to you, some of the Chiefs of the villages do as they please, give them good Council Brothers, why should they bring mischief upon themselves.

Brother,

L'Agesse who lives on the Isle aux Nois River came to see me when I was in that Country he owned that he had been foolish, and said that it was the English that set him on.

Brother,

The English and the Americans are at peace, and you know well enough that the Commanding officer at Detroit has told you that you must not hurt the Americans. Brothers it is the English traders that set your people on to mischief, and do you not see why they do so. It is this if once matter were perfectly settled between the Red People and the United States, the Americans would carry goods to your towns to buy your skins and the English be obliged to sell you cheaper than they do now. If they can get your Skins cheap they do not care either what happens to the Red People or to the Americans, as long as they tempt some of your foolish young men to do mischief, they are sure that the Americans will not go among you and so they will have all your trade to themselves.

Come and see me Brother, you may do it in perfect security, the Weyondots and the Delawares come frequently, ask them how they are received, the Fire still burns bright and the ground is clean swept around it, there is neither Thorn nor Brier in all the way between us. All my people will be pleased to see you often and it will make my heart glad to take you by the hand, and to smoke with you under the Tree of Peace which I planted, and will continue to water till its branches overshadow all nations that inhabit this land.

BROTHER,

I send you a string of White Wampum with this, likewise that you may know and understand that the heart of the United States is clear and right towards you, there is not a spot of black in it no more than there is in this Wampum.

From your friend

(Signed) AR. ST. CLAIR

Governor of the Territory of the United States North West of the Ohio.

(This speech is not dated) D.

Indorsed: 4.
In Lord Dorchester's to Lord Grenville No. 84, of the 14th June 1791.

[Q 50–1, p 239]

GOV. A. ST CLAIR TO THE WYANDOT NATION.

To the Chiefs and Warriors of the Wyondot Nation.

BROTHERS,

It is now a long time that I have not heard from you, tho' I have sent you several messages—Brothers, have you so soon forgot the promises, that passed between us at this place, that we should live together in peace and harmony and constantly inform each other of what was going forward.

BROTHERS,

Since I saw any of you a great deal of mischief has been done upon this River and other places. I hope it is not true that the Wyondots have had any hand in it. I should be sorry that it was true, because I love the Wyondots and wish to do them good and I could not if they joined in the mischief.

Brothers,

When the Shawanese & Miamis forced us to make war upon them last year, I sent to you and informed you that we were going so to do, and warned you to keep yourselves at a distance from them lest harm should come to you that was not intended for you if any harm did come to you, it was your own fault, not ours, because you did not follow the good advice I gave you, in consequence of the promises we made to each other; But how have you kept your promises. Have you given me any notice of the parties that were coming in to do us mischief. No. My Brothers, Your own young men have joined in it.

Brothers,

Where is the Tache & Shandutty & Dewintate and your other wise men? Are they all dead, or are they became fools likewise. Believe me my friends & I never did, nor ever will tell you a lie, the friendship of the United States is not to be slighted—they will religiously observe every promise they have made to you, and they will & do expect that you will keep & perform the promises you have made to them—think well on this matter, your own interest & happiness is concern'd in it. I call upon these 3 chiefs by name, because I know them & upon all your wise men & warn them as they regard the welfare of themselves, of your women & children & of your nation to keep back your young men and to hold fast by the chain of friendship that was put into their hands for you all at this place.

Brothers,

Some of your people were detained here, the design was to keep them safe until my arrival, but they took fright & run away, I assure you no harm was intended them, but had they been allowed to go abroad, where they pleased, when the other Indians were doing mischief, they might have been hurt. We do not allow our friends who came to us in confidence to be hurt & if they had not run away I would have sent them back to their nation with honourable marks of the regard I have for it.

Brothers,

Hearken to me. I now tell you again that offers of peace are made to the Shawanese and Miamies and the nations on the Oubashe. Whether they will listen to them or not, I do not know, but as I know them to be very foolish people; I suspect they will not; In that case I again warn you to keep at a distance from them lest evil befal yourselves.

Brothers,

From a sincere regard for your welfare, I council you to hold fast the chain of friendship between you and the United States, and if any spots of rust are grown upon it, we will both lend our hands to rub them off and make it clean and bright as silver.

Take you what part you will, justice and good faith shall guide the United States and therefore I give you this notice.

Your women may have suffered a little, it was the fault of them who ran away, had they staid, they would all have met with the kindest treatment. By them I send you this message.

Farewell,

(Signed) Ar St Clair

Governor of the Territory of the United States North West of the River Ohio.

D.

Fort Harmar April 30th 1791.

Indorsed: 5.
In Lord Dorchester's to Lord Grenville No. 100 dated the 1st August 1791.

[Q 52, p 244]

LETTER FROM MAJ. JOHN SMITH.

Extract of a letter from Major Smith 6th Regt. dated,

Detroit 30th April 1791

"The two Choates the Americans who were brought in prisoners by the Indians in the winter and of which you were advised, have begged permission to return to Massachusets by way of Montreal.

I have therefore given them a pass to meet your orders at Niagara."

"The Moravians, so intimidated by the Excursions of both parties on the frontiers, have fled from their Establishments, hired a vessel, and set themselves down on the west side of the mouth of the Detroit."

"If we are to put any reliance in the Indian accounts, the Americans are still making operations on the Ohio &c a thousand men are said to be come up the Muskingum and a skirmish between 100 continentals and some Indians, to have taken place on the Ohio. This latter report gains credit; 'tis said the 100 men were a guard on shore, to three Batteaux and Stores, that they were defeated by the Indians, and the boats plundered."

The Deputy Agent for Indian Affairs, is at the foot of the Rapids of the Miamies, with the usual Spring supplies, and to effect a commission from Sir John Johnson Bart by enquiring into the state &c of the present disturbances in the Indian Country."

(Signed) JOHN SMITH
Major 6th Regt.
D.

Indorsed: 48.
In Lord Dorchesters to Lord Grenville No 84 of the 14th June 1791.

[Q 50-1, p 251]

JOURNAL.

DETROIT 1st of May 1791.

Journal of what happened at the Miamis and the Glaize with the Ouias & Piconns.

Miamis March 9th. Twelve Indians Sauteaux and Ottawas arrived from the Grand River, near Michilimakinac who left the next day to go to war to the Miamis.

Miamis—13th. Five Poux Indians arrived & left to join the former.

Miamis—15th. Arrived a Canadian who wintered at the River Pataca, distant about one hundred leagues from the Miamis, which falls into the White River, who said that last winter there had passed near his house a party of Americans, that eight Chanoinons being aware of this, had gone after them & come up to them at the River Missouri & had carried off six horses & three cows & report that the Americans have three forts on the shore of the Belle Riviere.

Miamis—19th. A Chanoinon & a Mingo arrived from the Belle Riviere saying that the Americans have abandoned a small fort & their plantations on the little Rock River (Riviere aux Roches) at Steep Bank Creek, their houses full of house hold goods & their animals in the fields. The two Indians brought two horses loaded. The Chief called the Black Fish (Poisson Noir) charged to keep guard on this bank of the Belle Riviere is camped between the two Rock Rivers, when he returns to the Miamis he will burn the houses & bring off the animals.

Glaize 30th March. A party of a hundred Indians, Chanoinon, Loups, Hurons, Ottawas, Cherokees, left to go to the Belle Riviere, if they do not meet the Batteaux will go to strike the French establishment farther down than the River Sciota. Three Cherokees have left before them to see what the French are doing at this establishment.

Glaize 2nd April. Forty Sagina Indians have agreed to camp near the Miamis, those of the same two nations on the Wabash will also come to camp—16 Chanoinons, eight from the Maycoché, eight from the Pickaurdé village, have left, the eight first will go near Philadelphia to look for a prisoner, the second to the Belle Riviere. The Indians from the Wabash have left their wintering six week earlier than usual, fearing that the Americans would profit by the high water to come to attack their villages, they have all determined to defend them, there are constantly parties on the road to Post Vincenne. The Ouias the Rikapoux & the Piankishaws have all agreed.

Piconne 26th March. The Ouis arrived at Post Vincenne they took about two leagues from the Post ten Frenchmen who made boats (Piroques) & sugar, that they said that all the French inhabitants had left to go to settle at l'ance a la Glaisse near the Illinois, that they would not live with the Americans any longer & that their plan was to go there quickly, to which the Indians answered to take courage and leave all, that as for them they were determined to go to attack the Post, that they would not wait behind the Sacs & Renards. The French had sent to the village to look for bread & tobacco. That they had given the number of their prisoners, who were, Antoine Gamelin, Paul Gamelin, Bosseun, Braulong, Vaudrille, all principal inhabitants of the Post, which they have released. They also took an American, that they had intended to burn in their village, but they had killed him on the road thinking they were discovered.

Ouias—Two Indians who were found in the post, have been informed by the inhabitants, that the Americans who came last Autumn by the Wabash, had got on the way a field piece of six pounds, they have brought it to the Ouias. The Grand Chief had given it to them for goods, this piece is brass & is the same that Governor Hamilton had brought to the Post & that the Americans had taken.

Miamis 6th April. A man called Chevalier who had wintered 12 leagues from St Joseph said he had seen a man called Fauché of the Post who had wintered in the upper part of the River Piconns, who told him that the Americans were determined to attack the Ouias this Spring, that they would take advantage of the high water to do so, that they would use at least five thousand men, that last Autumn the Inhabitants of Kentucky had assured them that two thousand men were enough, that was the reason why they had lost every thing, that he had been employed by the Americans who had stated to him that they had lost more than five hundred men, that the Congress had granted them five thousand men.

Miamis 7th April. The party of Indians from the Grand River who left the Miamis the 9th of March arrived the 7th of April, they had been at the Belle Riviere, they had traversed it many times, that the last time they had been on the other side, that they found a barge on an island in which they embarked & let it drift, that on a dark night an American batteau descended, that they passed & repassed many times, that they appeared to be a large company, that as they could not dare to attack them they disembarked and hid in the woods, that at the break of day they ascended a small hill & saw two rows of newly built houses, behind enclosures, that they were seen by some men who were going to work in the fields who ran away crying, that they fired after them & killed two, that not one had dared to come out. The new establishment is nearly opposite the Grand Rock River.

Miamis 12th April. The Chanoinon party which left the Miamis on the second of April, reports that a party of Canoinons, Mingoes, Cherokees & two Canadians, the one called La Chapelle & the other Baun have attacked & taken a covered bateau, that they killed 10 Americans, & 20 women & children. That there were four Frenchmen in the bateau, the one killed himself seeing the Indians, that the three others had been taken by La Chapelle who persuaded the Indians to release them with provisions & a bateau to go on to their destination. The Indians robbed the bateau, they say that it belonged to rich men by their clothes. The Indians lost five men, three Cherokees & two Mingoes, they add that that forty Indians from Niagara had been struck at the Belle Riviere, near Fort Pitt, that they had killed many & burnt a number of houses.

La Glaize. Four Loups arrived at Fort Pitt where they went to trade, the Americans wished to kill them, but they found means to save themselves, on their return they burnt some houses which the Americans had abandoned.

Miamis 13. Some Ottawas from Michilimakinac have arrived, have danced the war dance according to custom & joined some others to go to war.

Miamis 14th April. In the morning a Chanoinon arrived to give notice of a party of the same nation being come for war, who reports, that they have seen a great number of Americans assembled at a place called Bryant, on the River Kentucky, who came by the Belle Riviere. Blue Water has been sent by those who are actually at war to give notice to the Chief of the Nations. The word is sent to the Chiefs, to assemble the young men.

Sandusky 20 April. The Indians who are on the American side, some time ago killed three Loups.

The Americans have promised a hundred dollars for each scalp of either English or French Traders.

Miamis 24th April. The Sagina Indians have been at war at the Rock River where they killed four men, & took from one of them some papers & letters, which mentions that Governor St Clair is appointed Brigadier General & Commander in Chief of the American forces, that Butler has the command of two thousand newly raised men for a short time, Major Doughty Lt Colonel Commandant of the 2nd Regiment also newly raised, General Harmar can resign.

The same day two Indians arrived also from the River Rock who report that they saw near the Fort some troops camped, some bateaux & some fires, they spent two days & two nights round the camp & took six scalps.

26th April. A Chanoinon arrived at the Miamis with a man called Contepas from Capt. Johnny, Chief of the River Glaize with a pipe & a piece of red Tobacco, they said that they had reason to fear that the Americans would make a second attack on them, that they sent this tobacco to pass the word for all the warriors to assemble & to take courage & not to be surprised in their villages by the appearance of the Indians who will go before the army. They appeared very determined. The Frenchman who killed himself on the Ohio wore the uniform of an officer of marine, the buttons are iron anchors.

Detroit 5th May. Eighty Sagina Indians have passed this post to day, going to war.

[Q 50–1, p 221]

PROCEEDINGS OF A COUNCIL WITH THE SIX NATIONS.

Proceedings of a Council held with the Chiefs of the Six Nations at Buffaloe Creek 4th May 1791.

Present

Lt Colo. Butler, Deputy Agent
Capt Burrough 26th Regt.
W. B. Sheehan
William Johnston Interpreter.

The Chiefs of Buffaloe Creek having met, Colo. Butler addressed them as follows.

BROTHERS,

A few days ago I received a message from you to attend a Council begging that Col. Gordon and all those belonging to the Indian Department would accompany me, as the Business was of the greatest importance to you and wished our assistance and advice; I am now ready to hear what you have to say, and return you your strings of invitation.

6 Strings Wampum.

The Farmer's Brother Speaker

BROTHERS,

An American and a Frenchman arrived here, who say they are sent to us by the President General Washington, with a number of Papers which we cannot read, we hope you will read them for us and explain them fully.

BROTHERS,

Exclusive of these they have other papers which they explained as follows, "That they are going on a message with some written speeches to the Western Nations and that they were ordered to take chiefs of the Six Nations by the hand to accompany them agreeable to Capt O'Bale's promise to Congress."

This is a matter of serious consideration to us, Brothers what is your opinion.

Colo Butler replied as follows,

BROTHERS,

I have heard with attention your speech, it has always been my wish to advise you what I thought for your Interest, I foresee the present case is not without its difficulties. The King your Father wishes you to live in peace and I advise you by all means to preserve it, I cannot say it would be prudent to accompany these people immediately to the Westward, those Indians you know are a good deal enraged, they have also threatened you and at your last Council you approved of Captain Brant's going to visit them to see what they are about, he is now gone and will use all his influence for peace, I think you should hear from him before you determine on going, but if you think your going will be instrumental in making Peace and not involve yourselves in troubles, I think you ought to embrace the opportunity of doing so.

This is all that occurs to me but I by no means wish your attention to it, it differs from your own opinion of this matter which concerns yourselves and the Americans, but as you insisted upon my thoughts on the subject—I have given you them.

The Farmers Brother Speaker.

BROTHER,

We return you thanks for what you have said to us—we request you to take these papers, to Niagara that the King our Father may see them, and a few of our chiefs propose meeting Colonel Gordon & yourself at Niagara in three days to speak further on this subject.

D.

Indorsed: 33.

In Lord Dorchester's to Lord Grenville No. 84 of the 14th June 1791.

[Q 50–1, p 205]

J. KNOX, SEC'Y OF WAR, TO BRIGADIER GENERAL RICHARD BUTLER.

WAR DEPARTMENT 5th May 1791.

SIR,

I have received your letter from Baltimore on the 30th ultimo. The Clothing and Tents for upwards of two hundred men have been forwarded to Hager's Town and the same to Winchester and the remainder to complete the Virginia Battalion will be forwarded to-morrow together with Camp Kettles and some Canteens.

As I presume you have made a perfect arrangement relative to both the Virginia and Maryland battalions I shall say nothing further upon that subject excepting that I have received no more information either from you or Colonel Drake than is contained in your letter.

Mr Swan of my office will set out from hence the next day after tomorrow to inspect and muster the companies as they shall assemble at the rendévous's of Winchester and Hagers Town.

Captain Snowden marched from Trenton on the 27th ultimo with one hundred & one Levies Captain Armstrong from the city and Lieut. Platt from Christiana Bridge on the same day and Major Ferguson informs me that one hundred and sixty Levies will immediately march from Carlisle—Captain Pratt will march from Trenton in a day or two with upwards of one hundred more of the Levies of New Jersey. And I have little doubt of the Battalion of that state being completed and on its march before the 20th inst.

I pray you to urge the completion of the battalions of this State.

Major General St Clair I am informed has descended the Ohio. It is to be presumed he has left orders for you at Fort Pitt. In these orders I hope he has directed part of the Levies to be posted for the covering of

the upper parts of the Ohio, so that the militia who have been called out by the County Lieutenants under the direction of the President of the United States, as contained in my letter of the 10th of March should be discharged. But if he should not have instructed you upon this point and has left it discretionary with you as to the disposition of some of the levies and it should be your judgment that they may be used for the temporary purpose of covering the frontier on the upper parts of the Ohio I pray you to dispose of them accordingly.

In this case you will instantly dispatch the most pointed orders to all the County Lieutenants of Pensylvania and Virginia so protected by the Levies to discharge all the Militia called out by virtue of the President's directions contained in my letter of the 10th of March last respecting such small parties as you may judge indispensible for to serve as scouts or rangers to give the alarm.

The great expence incurred by the militia renders, that this object should be attended to as soon as the arrival of the Levies will render it proper.

In the temporary disposition of the Levies you will pay a just regard to the protection of the Settlements below both of which are entitled to protection in the same manner as the inhabitants on the south of the Ohio.

I suppose General St Clair will have directed that all the Regulars and probably part of the Levies descend the Ohio to Head Quarters. It is far from my intention of interfering in the least degree with his orders my object is to discharge the militia consistently with the other objects of the Troops.

I shall expect to hear from you every opportunity until you descend the Ohio.

With great respect I have the honor &ca

(Signed) J. Knox
Secy of War.

Brigadier General
Richard Butler

[Q 58-1, p 149]

HENRY MOTZ TO SIR JOHN JOHNSON.

Quebec 9th May 1791.

Sir,

Your letter of the 5th Instant has been laid before Lord Dorchester. His Lordship thinks it very natural, that the present situation of the Western Indians should call for more than usual supplies of provisions

and necessaries and that without such aid it will be very difficult if not impracticable to engage a sufficient number of their leading people to meet, and continue together long enough, for the purpose of fully deliberating on the means of restoring the general tranquility.

You will therefore be pleased to furnish His Lordship with a state of such extraordinary supplies, as you may conceive the present circumstances to require.

Brandt seems to think they are acting deceitfully with the Indians on this occasion, and that they wish to make a tool of him for that purpose.

On the other hand many are of opinion, that there is an intention of attacking the posts, or surprizing them, as they did Ticonderoga in seventy six.

My Lord therefore thinks it necessary to be prepared for all events, as you were informed by His letter of the 14th of last month.

Besides great watchfulness in the officers of your department to obtain and communicate the earliest intelligence of all movements in the Indian Country, His Lordship wishes them to consider whether, in the case of the approach of an army, the safety of the King's posts may not require that detachments from the garrisons and militia should march forward from Niagara and Detroit, and occupy certain stations at a distance. What stations they think most eligible for this purpose, and by what force and means they should be occupied.

Upon all these matters they should communicate their opinions fully to the commanding officers of the respective posts, as well as to you.

The situation of Oswego differs from that of the other posts, but the means of its safety should otherwise be fully considered and the sentiments of the officer of your Department at Niagara, with respect to it, made known to the Commandant and to you.

His Lordship wishes much to have your own sentiments on all these matters as soon as can be, besides the communication of such reports and observations as you may receive from your officers at the different posts in the upper country.

I have the honor to be Sir Your most obedient humble Servant

(Signed) HENRY MOTZ.

Sir John Johnson, Bart.

Indorsed: 27.

In Lord Dorchester's to Lord Grenville No. 84 of the 14th June 1791.

[Q 50-1, p 161]

LORD DORCHESTER TO COL. A. GORDON.

QUEBEC 9th May 1791.

SIR,

The expected approach of an Army in the Indian Country, and the rumours of an intention to attack the posts or surprize them as was done at Ticonderoga in seventy six require that we should be on our guard, and prepared for all events.

I send you herewith a copy of my orders to you of the 14th of last month, lest the original should have been miscarried, together with a copy of further directions of this date to Sir John Johnson on the same subject.

Should the turn of affairs require the King's vessels and gun boats on the Lakes, or any of them to be fitted for war, and the exigency of the service not admit of your waiting for orders from hence upon such reports as you may have to make, you will proceed to arm and man the said vessels or gun boats, or so many of them as you think necessary, agreeable to the returns transmitted to you on the 6th of October last without delay.

I am &ca.

(Signed) DORCHESTER.

Colonel Gordon.

D.

Indorsed: 28.

In Lord Dorchester's to Lord Grenville No 84 of the 14th June 1791.

[Q 50–1, p 164]

HENRY MOTZ TO SIR JOHN JOHNSON.

QUEBEC 9th May 1791.

SIR,

On the subject of Joseph Brandt's letter respecting the lands on the Grand River, I am to observe, that without doubt the Indians are entitled to the full accomplishment of Governor Haldimand's promise to them without any diminution, and it shall be carried into execution accordingly.

A continuation of Settlements along the borders of Lake Erie concerning which it seems the Indians have been spoke to, may be for the general convenience of the King's subjects, but no parts of the lands promised to the Indians can be kept from them on that ground.

To leave their choice more free it should have been explained to them that this proposal did not come from Government they may now be

assured their acquiescence shall not be accepted, while they think it hard, that they should give it back after it has been given to them. They must have all that has been promised and if they should afterwards consent to surrender any part of their tract, for the accommodation of the King's Subjects in general, they must have full and ample compensation for it to their ample satisfaction.

As to the nature of the deed it should be framed in every respect according to their own wishes, so as to secure the true interests of themselves and their posterity for ever in the most effectual manner. It will be very desirable that they should consider this matter fully among themselves, and bring forward the heads of the deed they wish to receive. You will be pleased to recommend this measure to Captain Brandt, and to acquaint him with His Lordship's sentiments, expressed in this letter, in general.

I have the honor to be Sir
Your most obedient humble Servant
(Signed) HENRY MOTZ.

Sir John Johnson, Bart.

Indorsed: 24.
In Lord Dorchester's to Lord Grenville No. 84 of the 14th June 1791.

[Q 50–1, p 156]

J. KNOX, SEC'Y OF WAR, TO MAJ. GEN. RICHARD BUTLER.

WAR DEPARTMENT 12th May 1791.

SIR,

Your letter of the 30th of April is the last I have received from you.

I have sent Mr. Swan to Hagers Town in Maryland and Winchester in Virginia in order to muster inspect and march all the levies at those places.

He is furnished with money, and orders to supply any defects which may have arisen on the part of the Contractors either with respect to rations or transportation, and he has also all the Commissions for the Virginia and Maryland Battalions.

I have information from Captain Freeman whom I dispatched upon other public business that the recruiting of the Virginia Battalions has succeeded well & from his information I should hope that the greater part of that Battalion will be in readiness to march from Winchester on or before the 21st instant.

Tents clothing and knapsacks have been forwarded complete for the Virginia and the same articles has gone forward or is about setting out for the Maryland battalion at Hagers Town.

I have therefore the persuasion in my mind that you have completed all the arrangements with which you were charged relative to the said Virginia and Maryland Battalions and that they will be completed in due season.

The Jersey Battalion will probably be completed and march before the 20th or 25th. Captain Pike marched with a detachment from Trenton on the 9th, which makes one hundred and ninety six non commissioned and privates of that Battalion which has already marched.

The completion of the Battalions of this State will claim your highest exertions. The lower Battalion it is to be presumed will be completed in good season, But the upper Battalion does not succeed so well. Pray urge the business by all possible inducements.

The Battalion to be raised under the orders of Brigadier General Sevier will not be so forward as I expected owing to his falling sick at Richmond. But as the clothing and all equipments for it had gone forward on the 25th Ultimo, he writes me he had no doubt of the battalion being completed by the 1st of June.

The recruiting in the Eastern States for the regular Troops has not succeeded well. But I hope from the measures taken it will soon be better—Captain Shaylor with a company from Connecticut will I expect be shortly at Brunswick in New Jersey on its way to Fort Pitt, and I expect in the course of the month that Beatty & Doyles companies will be completed.

I enclose you a duplicate of my letter to you of the 5th instant, I pray your immediate attention to the objects contained in it relative to the dismission of the Militia of the Frontier Counties as soon as the arrival of the Levies will admit of the measure.

If you have not orders from Major General St Clair relative to the time of your going down the Ohio, I wish it might be delayed conceiving your presence will be essentially necessary at Fort Pitt in order to arrange & forward the service. As soon as the Major of the Carlisle detachment shall be appointed you will order Colonel Gibson to Fort Pitt. I am Sir &ca.

(Signed) J. Knox
Secy of War.

Major General Richard Butler.

Indorsed:—No. 13.

[Q 58-1, p 152]

J. KNOX, SEC'Y OF WAR, TO MAJ. GEN. RICHARD BUTLER.

WAR DEPARTMENT, May 19th 1791.

SIR,

I have received your favor dated at Carlisle on the 11th instant.

Mr Swan will be able to remedy all defects in Maryland and Virginia either with respect to provisions or transportation.

I depend on your appointing the major to the Carlisle Battalion.

I am well satisfied you have gone forward to Fort Pitt. The Indians have lately committed some depredations on Westmoreland County the mischief most probably has been committed by a few Indians but the people seem greatly alarmed.

The Governor of this Commonwealth has again applied to me for arms and ammunition and I have directed Major Craig to furnish 200 Arms & accoutrements with a proportional quantity of ammunition to the order of Colo Biddle Qua. Master General of this State.

I have furnished to the order of Major Smith of Carlisle the further sum of 1000 Dollars on account of Mr Duer the Contractor.

I have not received any precise information relative the upper Battalion of this State I have written to Major Clarke for information and shall hope to receive it either from him but more especially from you.

I have been informed that as no men were called from Fayette County, that it is unfortunate that one company had not been raised in that County, I trust that if there is still a deficiency in other places that you will immediately attempt to raise men in Fayette.

I depend greatly on your presence to give a due stimulus to the upper battalions.

I am persuaded were a proper distribution to be made by posting a company of Levies at Fort Franklyn for the present & until they would be wanted for the active operations of the campaign and by dismissing the Westmoreland Militia all but a few who might act as Rangers for quieting the minds of the Inhabitants that Major Clarke's battalion would immediately feel the good effects of the measure.

I trust you will take decisive measures as soon as the nature of the case will admit consistently with the protection of the frontiers to dismiss all the Militia called out by the County Lieutenants as far down the Ohio as the Great Kenewa. General St Clair will take care of all below the Kenawa.

The dismissal of the Militia must be entrusted to you who will be upon the Spot, the expence is a grievous circumstance and ought to be

terminated as soon as possible consistently with the security of the Inhabitants.

When the Levies shall arrive if you shall have the disposal of them by the General's orders (for I wish not to interpose with the disposition of the troops after their arrival at Fort Pitt,) it will be important that they should be arranged so as to cover the counties for the present in order that the Militia may be discharged.

The troops which have marched and which will march from the respective rendezvous for Fort Pitt before the first of June will probably amount to 1200 besides Captn. Montfort's Company of North Carolina which amounts to upwards of sixty and which has marched from Staunton by the Great Kenawa.

Mr Hodgdon has employed Colonel Marshall of Washington County to purchase 50 horses for the Cavalry and he has or will make arrangement for the purchase of the other fifty all the stores for the Campaign together with the Quarter Master will set out before the 1st of June. I enclose a duplicate of my letter to you of the 12th inst.

I earnestly request that I may hear from you by every post.

I am &ca.

(Signed) J. KNOX
Secy of War.

Major General Butler.

[Q 58–1, p 155]

COL. A. GORDON TO FRANCIS LE MAISTRE.

Extract of a letter from Colonel Gordon to Francis Le Maistre Esqr. dated Niagara May 20th 1791.

"There has for some time been at Buffaloe Creek, a Colonel Proctor and three other people, one of them I understand a frenchman, they have had a Council with such of the Six Nations as are settled there, at which Colonel Butler was present; they produced voluminous papers from Congress and others of the United States, copies of which I imagine are forwarded by this opportunity to the Superintendant General, I inclose Colo Butler's speech on the occasion. The Farmer's son and other Chiefs expected here have not yet made their appearance, but I inclose for His Lordship's information copies of two letters from Colo Proctor to me, together with my answer."

"I have had it privately conveyed to me, that the reason why the Chiefs have not appeared here to ask my Council is, that they are

very much divided, some are for going with Colo Proctor, and others not. I shall follow in the advice I give them much the same line as prescribed by Lt Colo Butler, should they apply for it."

D.

Indorsed: 31.

In Lord Dorchester's to Lord Grenville No 84 of the 14th June 1791.

NIAGARA 6th May 1791.

SIR,

The enclosed speech is what passed between myself and the Chiefs of the Six Nations of Buffaloe Creek which I hope will meet your approbation. I had not an opportunity of seeing the Private instructions of Colo Proctor, but from the conversation I had with him, imagine he is to proceed at all events (and should none of the Indians accompany him) to the Miami River, and from thence to the Ohio—he talked of hiring a merchant vessel to carry him to Sandusky, and told me he hoped no impediment would be thrown in his way by preventing the Indians from accompanying him, he also said he expected to be supplied with charts of the Lake from Government if he should want them.

I am sorry illness has prevented me from waiting on you, but as I expect the Chiefs from Buffaloe Creek, hope to be able to see you tomorrow.

I have the honor to be Sir, your most obedt Servant

(Signed) JOHN BUTLER

Lt Col. Gordon

Indorsed: No 32.

In Lord Dorchesters to Lord Grenville No 84 of the 14 June 1791.

[Q 50–1, page 202]

MAJOR JOHN STAGG, JR., TO MAJ. GEN. RICHARD BUTLER.

WAR DEPARTMENT May 23d 1791.

SIR,

I have the honor to inform you that the Bearer James Woodhouse is appointed a surgeon's mate to Major Clarks battalion of levies and by order of the Secretary of War, repairs to Fort Pitt to Join his corps and to receive any further directions from you that may be necessary. I have the honor &ca

(Signed) JNO STAGG JUNR

Major General Rd Butler Chf. Clk.

Indorsed: No 31.

[Q 58–1, p 192]

PROCEEDINGS OF A COUNCIL HELD WITH THE SIX NATIONS.

Proceedings of a Council held at Niagara, with the Chiefs of the Six Nations, the 24th May 1791.

Present.

Colonel Gordon, 26th Regt Comg. Upper Posts,
Lieut Colo Butler, Deputy Agent Indian Affairs,

Major Duff
Captn Duke
Captn ByGrave
Captn Dacres
Lieut Green
Lieut Sir Wm. Erskine
Lieut Duke &ca
} 26th Regiment.

Lieut Gillespie—65th Regiment
Lieut Bruyeres—Royal Engineers
Lieut Suckling—Royal Regt. Artillery.

After the usual ceremony had passed. The Fish Carrier a principal Cayuga Chief, addressed Colonel Gordon as follows,

BROTHER,

We return the Great Spirit thanks, for the pleasure we have in meeting you, and your warriors in health at this time. We also return you our thanks for your readiness in complying with our request of attending our Council fire, and that you sent one of your Chief Warriors to represent you, as we do not wish to transact any Business with the Americans, without the knowledge of the King our Father.

The Farmer's Brother, the principal Seneca Chief, then spoke.

BROTHER,

It is needless for us to repeat to you the Business that Colonel Proctor came upon to us, as you must have seen that, by the papers that we sent you from Buffaloe Creek, which he brought there. After Colonel Proctor had explained to us the Business that he came upon, we were of opinion that we could not be of service in making peace by going immediately with him, but had not come to a full determination. When our Chief women requested of us in Council, to give him our assistance, and that the King our Father wished Peace to Prevail, and that by going with Colonel Proctor to the Western Nations we might probably be instrumental in bringing that desired event about. This had great weight with us but we requested Colonel Proctor to wait at Buffaloe Creek, until we could hear from Captain Brant, who was gone to see

those nations, but he said as he had already been detained by our Deliberations a long time, he was determined not to wait. Upon which ten of the Seneca Nation and four of the Onondagas, agreed to accompany him, Provided he would wait until we could come here, and acquaint you with it.

The Cow Killer, a principal Seneca Chief, then spoke,

Brother,

Colonel Proctor told us, that our coming down here, would occasion delay, and that our heads would be turned, and that he had no time to spare, he then proposed writing to you, in order to get a vessel to transport us to Sandusky. But as we were preparing to go with Colonel Proctor we received a message from Colonel Pickering a Commissioner for Indian Affairs, inviting us to attend a Council at the Painted Post, near Tioga, being surprised at receiving such different messages from People in authority from General Washington, we are still more astonished at receiving a third message from Governor St Clair on the Ohio, informing us that he is appointed to command of the Army against the Indians, and desiring us to join him in the war against the Western Indians our Brethren, and to send word to General Butler, how many of our Warriors would join him. These contradictory proceedings of the Americans greatly surprised us; Colonel Proctor at this time appearing very eager to hurry us off with him, whose intention we now thought was to involve us in a war with our Brethren, that we immediately declined having any thing more to do with him. But having last Fall found Colonel Pickering's opinion for Peace coincided with our own, and after considering these extraordinary matters; we determined to attend his Council fire at the Painted Post, and shew him the absurd, and unreasonable manner the Americans behaved in towards us. Colonel Proctor then told us that since he found we would not comply with the wish of the President General Washington that he would proceed home, by the way of Fort Pitt, but that he did not blame us for not accompanying him, but that it was owing to the *King's People*. We also sent word to General St Clair, that we were for peace and not for war.

Brother,

We now inform you that in about ten days we mean to set out for the Painted Post. Last year when we met Colonel Pickering at Tioga, we told him that we always wished to have a British subject present at our Councils, Mr. Street was then there, and we wished that he would now accompany us.

The Chiefs having finished what they had to say, Colonel Gordon replied to them.

In Council Niagara 24th May 1791.

To the Chiefs and Warriors of the Six Nations.

BROTHERS,

I sincerely rejoice in this opportunity in meeting in Council, so many Chiefs and Warriors of the Six Nations.

The Chain of friendship which binds you to the King Your Father, on the other side the Great Lake, will remain bright and strong, as long as the Sun and Moon shall continue to lighten the world.

BROTHERS,

I read with attention all the papers you sent me from Buffaloe Creek, and I now give you my full approbation of your conduct in Council with Colonel Proctor of which you have told me the whole proceedings.

BROTHERS,

I informed you by Colonel Butler, and the officer who attended that Council the wishes of the King Your Father for Peace, and that it was my earnest desire you should pursue the most probable means to bring it about.

BROTHERS,

As it is your wish never to transact any business with the States of America, without the knowledge of the King Your Father, I shall endeavour to have a person present on all such occasions, when that cannot be accomplished with convenience, you will inform me afterwards of everything that passes at such Councils.

BROTHERS,

You will stop your ears, and shut your eyes, against any evil person who may come amongst ye to spread lying stories; they are neither your friends nor ours, and when you let me know their name, I will find means to punish them as they deserve.

BROTHERS,

At the time that you are receiving messages from the Americans, to attend Councils at different places, for the purpose, as they say of bringing about a peace, with your brothers the Western Indians, I was greatly astonished to find by General St Clair's Speech, dated at Pittsburgh April 23rd and forwarded to the Chiefs and Warriors of the Seneca Nation, that he invited you to take up the Hatchet, against your brothers the Miamies.

BROTHERS,

Your prudence in not paying any attention to such a message, was right and proper and as such I shall represent it to your father at Quebec.

BROTHERS,

Should the Americans be so rash, as to come near any of the King your Father's Posts, with bad intention they will find us prepared to repel them.

BROTHERS,

As you are of opinion the attending the Council, at the Painted Post, to which you are invited by Colonel Pickering, will help to bring about a Peace, I am glad to hear from you that you intend going to it, and may the Great Spirit direct you to do what is right.

(Signed) A. GORDON Col. D.

2

In Lord Dorchesters to Lord Grenville No. 95 of 1st July 1791.

COPY OF A SPEECH FROM TIMOTHY PICKERING TO THE SIX NATIONS.

BROTHERS, SACHEMS, CHIEFS & WARRIORS OF THE SIX NATIONS,

When I took you by the hand last fall at Tioga, the Chain of Friendship was brightened between you and the United States; and you expressed your wishes to keep it always bright. On the part of the United States I assure you of their regard for you, and their desire to maintain with you perpetual peace and friendship.

To renew those assurances and again to brighten the Chain and to remove all causes of jealousies and discontents, I am directed once more to meet you at such time and place, as should appear to me most convenient. I therefore now propose the painted Post, as a proper place of meeting; and as it is important that the Treaty be held as soon as possible, I propose that we should meet together at that place by the 15th day of June next. That time and place I hope will be convenient and agreeable to you, and I shall use my endeavours that every thing else shall give you satisfaction.

BROTHERS,

You will naturally ask, for what special purpose you are called to attend this Council Fire?

BROTHERS,

I will be open and tell you. For at the Council fire which I kindled at Tioga, in the name of our Great Chief, General Washington and of the United States, I assured you that in all my conduct you should find me open and sincere. Without sincerity how can friendship be preserved.

BROTHERS,

You know that some of the Western Indians have lifted up the Hatchet, and struck many of the Citizens of the United States. You told me that the Shawanese had invited you to join them in a war, against the United States, but that you had refused to join them. And you gave strong reasons for your refusal. You said that we sit side by side and ought to live in peace. That you wished to keep the path between us open and clear, that you might pass and repass unhurt, and that you desired to be at peace with the United States, that your women and children might be in safety.

BROTHERS,

I was equally pleased with your determination, and with the reasons on which it was founded. The same reasons must still influence you to hold fast your determination of maintaining peace with the United States. Some bad men however, Enemies of the United States, may again endeavor to persuade you to engage in the War, and by misrepresentations and lies prevail on some, contrary to their own Interest, and the Interest of the Six Nations. Now Brothers, I am to kindle the proposed Council Fire at the Painted Post, to give you fresh assurances, of the good will of the United States, of their desire to make the chain of friendship still brighter, and to keep it always bright and to shew you that the war with the Western Indians, is, on the part of the United States, not a War of choice, not of oppression, not of injustice but of necessity to defend our Frontiers, and save the Settlers from distruction.

BROTHERS,

According to the usual practice in Treaties with Indians, the proposed Treaty will be concluded with a present of goods.

BROTHERS,

I received great pleasure in the Treaty held with you last Fall at Tioga; and the manner in which it was conducted was entirely approved, by the Chief of the United States. I hope and believe that

the intended Treaty will be equally pleasing and give equal satisfaction to our great Chief.

Given under my hand and seal at Wyoming in the State of Pennsylvania the 17th day of April 1791.

(Signed)

TIMOTHY PICKERING

D.

[3] In Lord Dorchester's to Lord Grenville No. 95 of the 1st July 1791.

To the Chiefs and Warriors of the Seneca Nation.

MY SONS,

With this you will receive a message from the secretary at war for the United States, in answer to that of the Corn Planter, from this place, of the 17th of last month. You will see, my sons, by that message, that the Government is very much dissatisfied at the murder which has been committed upon the friendly Indians at Beaver Creek. It is held, I assure you, in the utmost abhorence, and every step will be taken to bring the guilty persons to due punishment. You will also see by the Proclamation of the Governor of Pennsylvania, which I send likewise, that a thousand Dollars are offered for the apprehending any of them.

MY SONS,

My heart is grieved for what happened to our friends at Beaver Creek, and likewise for the mischief that has been done to the white people since, along the River. If that mischief had not been done, it would have been much easier to bring the murderers to justice; as it is, nothing shall be left undone, that can be done to effect it. I assure you my sons, that my heart is still good and right towards all the Indians, and tho' I am employed to lead the armies of the United States against them, if they continue to be hostile, it would be much more agreeable to me, that they should listen to the voice of peace; and that instead of carrying war and destruction into their Country, they would allow me to be their friend and Protector.

MY SONS,

I am very sorry that some of you met likewise with illtreatment as you were going home from this place. Consider what had happened at Owen's Island, a few days before, and you will not be much surprized at it; for it proceeded from people who were strangers to you, and your good intentions. Notwithstanding I disapprove of it very much; and the President of the United States will be

very angry when he hears of it. The man who commanded the party shall be prosecuted, and tho it may be a little slow, complete justice will at last be done to you.

My Son, the Corn Planter, hearken to me.

We have laboured together in the good work of peace, do not suffer what has happened to disgust you, and turn you aside. I know it will not, and I hope that we may yet succeed in bringing all People into the good way, and that all the Red and the White people may live together like good friends and Brothers. Believe me, my son, it is not the wish of the United States, that the Red people should be destroyed, but if some of them will still be foolish, and cannot be brought into the good way we must make strong war upon them, and you and your people must go along with me.

My Sons,

I hope the message to the Western Indians has been sent forward long ago, and that I shall soon hear how it has been received. The season is advancing fast, and if they will not hearken to the good words that are sent them, we must make war in earnest. I hope likewise that you have sent on your friend Colonel Proctor; he was ordered to meet me at Fort Washington early next month, with the answer of those people, whether it were for peace or whether it were for war, and I cannot delay longer than about that time.

My Sons,

I have said that we must make strong war, and that you must go along with me, I expect and desire that you will send word to General Butler at this Place, how many will go, and when they will be ready. When you have given him notice of the murder, he will direct the time you are to set out, and the Place where you will embark, and he also goes along himself.

My Sons,

I cannot forget the mischief that happened at Beaver Creek because I am told, they were the people of my friend the Pipe—I cannot help shedding tears for them; and I repeat the detestation the action is held in by all good men, and by the government, and the murderers will surely be punished. I have sent a speech of condolence to the Pipe, and as soon as an opportunity can be had, I will make the friends of the deceas'd a compensation for what the villains robbed them of.

Fare well my sons. Hold fast the chain of friendship and try to put it into the hands of all other nations; The United States love the Senecas, and I hope it will not be long before all other nations are sensible, that it is their own interests to be their friends likewise.

May the good spirit bless you my sons, preside in your Councils, and direct all your affairs.

from your friend

(Signed) AR. ST. CLAIR,
Major General Commanding the Armies of the United States &
Governor of the Territory North West of the Ohio.

Dated at Pittsburgh
April 23d 1791.

In Lord Dorchester's 4—to Lord Grenville No. 95, of the 1st July 1791.

[Q 51-2, p 754]

J. KNOX, SEC'Y OF WAR, TO MAJOR GEN. RICHARD BUTLER.

WAR DEPARTMENT May 26th 1791.

SIR,

I have received yours dated at Turtle Creek 13 miles East of Pittsburg on the 19th Instant.

As the Virginia Levies are marching without arms and as it appears by your last letter there may be some danger on the route to Pittsburg it will be all important that you use the armed Troops in such manner as to prevent a possibility of injury to the unarmed Levies or the Troops which are on their way to Fort Pitt.

You could detach arms accoutrements and ammunition to meet the Levies before they arrive upon dangerous ground.

I have directed arms accoutrements & ammunition to be forwarded to the Maryland Levies, and I would do so by the Virginia Levies but it appears by information from Mr. Swan and Colonel Darke that all the Virginia Levies would be in motion before the first of June, 113 were to march from Winchester on the 18th so that they will arrive at Fort Pitt previously to this Letter. The Levies from Carlisle and Trenton will also be armed.

I enclose you a schedule of the troops which have actually marched and which will probably march before the 1st of June.

By the 10th of June I expect we shall march 150 regulars under Beatty or Doyle and by this time the remainder also of the Jersey Battalion which will probably be about 60.

The recruiting service at the Eastward is exceedingly dull we shall probably fall short in that quarter.

Besides the request herein contained relative to the safety of the unarmed parties I shall write to Colonel Gibson to make up of Purdy's company which is about marching for that purpose.

I am anxious to hear of Colonel Proctor. You will please to give me and to Major General St. Clair the earliest information you shall hear relative to him, and also you will keep me constantly informed of every thing necessary for me to know.

In a few days I shall be able with certainty to estimate the force which will march in the course of the month of June.

I have the honor &c (Signed) J. KNOX

Major General Richard Butler. Secy of War.

Indorsed: No. 15.

[Q 58–1, p 158]

Schedule of the Troops actually marched from the respective rendezvous for Fort Pitt, 1791.

Commanding officers.		Time of marching	From what rendezvous	Corps		Total
				Regulars	Levies	
Levies	Capt Jonathan Snowden	April 27th	Trenton		101	
1st Regt	Capt John Armstrong	ditto	Philadelphia	76		
2nd Do	Lieut John Platt	ditto	Delaware	74		
1st Do	Capt Joseph Montfort	May 3rd	Staunton (Virginia)	61		
Levies	Capt Joseph Slough	" 4th	Carlisle		80	
	Capt Wm Powers	" 5th	ditto		80	
	Capt Zebulon Pike	" 9th	Trenton		95	
2nd Regt	Capt Joseph Shenlor	" 17th	Middleton, Connecticut	76		
				287	356	643
Troops which will march on or before the 1st day of June vizt						
From Trenton				Picitt	83	
Carlisle				Purdy	83	
Upper Battalion of Pennsylvania					83	
Hagers Town					150	
Winchester					260	659
Estimate of Regulars & Levies (Brigadier General Sevier's Battalion included) which will march from their respective Rendezvous for the frontiers during the course of the month of June						1,302
						1,500
Total Regulars & Levies						2,802

Indorsed: No. 20.

Return of Troops marched to Fort Pitt, 1791. War Dept. May 28th 1791.

[Q 58–1, p 172a]

COLONEL A. MC KEE TO MAJOR JOHN SMITH.

Copy of a Letter from Colonel McKee to Major Smith dated, Foot of the Rapids, Miamies, May 30th 1791.

Having been informed that numerous bands of Indians propose passing Detroit upon their way to this place, have therefore thought it advisable to direct Capt. Elliot to return for some days in order to prevent their being too troublesome to you at the Post, he will remain there untill they are all past, by which time it is to be expected, that it will be necessary to send for the annual supplies allowed to the several nations in this Quarter; and as we have heard nothing farther of the late alarm at the Miamies towns, which occasioned their delay, are now in hopes of seeing soon some of their Chiefs down, to Council with those present & that are daily expected.

A Prisoner brought in by the Delawares a few days ago from the frontiers to the village near this, reports that the Indians are to be called to a Treaty at Fort Washington, and that a Colonel Proctor is on the way for the purpose, and in case of their refusal an army of 5000 men are in readiness to come against them.

As soon as the meeting of the Chiefs takes place here, shall not fail to communicate the Result of their deliberations to you, & have the honor &c

(Signed) A. McKee.

[Q 51-2, p 784]

J. KNOX, SEC'Y OF WAR, TO MAJOR GEN. RICHARD BUTLER.

War Department June 1 1791.

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit you a duplicate of my letter to you of the 26th Ulto. since which nothing material has occurred.

On the 20th Ulto marched from Winchester 170 Levies and 90 followed from the same place on the 22nd. 150 Levies were to march on the 25th from Hagerstown, the 30th 83 Levies from Trenton and yesterday Capt Shailie with 76 Regulars of the 2d Regt marched from New Brunswick.

I am Sir &ca.

(Signed) J. Knox.

Major General Butler.

Indorsed: No. 16.

[Q 58-1, p 160]

J. KNOX, SEC'Y OF WAR, TO MAJ. GEN. RICHARD BUTLER.

WAR DEPARTMENT June 1st 1791.

SIR,

This will be delivered to you by Mr. Hodgdon the Quarter Master to the Army. You will please to give him your advice and directions for such preparations as shall be serviceable to the campaign.

I have &ca

(Signed) J. KNOX.

Major General Richd Butler.

Indorsed: No. 17.

[Q 58-1, p 161]

MAJOR JOHN STAGG$_3$ JR., TO MAJ. GEN. RICHARD BUTLER.

WAR DEPARTMENT June 2d 1791.

SIR,

The Secretary at war being absent for a day or two, I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter to him dated the 22d ultimo with the enclosures.

Mr. Hodgdon the Quarter Master will set out this morning for Pittsburg and will hasten his Journey in order to make whatever arrangements may be found necessary in his department and to receive your further commands.

By the next post the Secretary of War will write you more particularly.

I have the honor &ca

(Signed) JNO STAGG, Junr
Chf Clk.

Major General Richard Butler.

Indorsed: No. 32.

[Q 58-1, p 193]

BRIG. GEN. CHAS. SCOTT TO THE INDIANS.

To the various Tribes of Picankieskaws and the nations of Red People living on the waters of the Wabash River.

The Sovereign Councils of the United States have long patiently born your depredations against their Settlements on this side of the

Great Mountains in the hope that you would see your error and correct it by entering with them into bonds of amity and lasting peace.

Moved by compassion & pitying your misguided Councils, they have frequently addressed you on this subject but without effect at length their patience is exhausted and they have stretched out the arm of power against you, their mighty sons & chief warriors have at length taken up the hatchet, they have penetrated far into your country to meet your Warriors and punish them for their transgressions, but you fled before them and declined the Battle leaving your wives & children to their mercy. They have destroyed your old Town of Ouias & the neighboring villages & have taken away many men prisoners. Resting here two days to give you time to collect your strength they proceeded to your town of Kitipicancan, but you again fled before them and that old Town has been destroyed. After giving this evidence of their power they have stopped their hands because they are as merciful as strong & they again indulge the hope that you will come to a sense of your true interests and determine to make a lasting Peace with them & their children forever. The United States have no desire to destroy the Red People, altho' they have the power, but should you decline this invitation, and pursue your unprovoked hostilities, their strength will again be exerted against you. Your warriors will be slaughtered your Towns & Villages ransacked & destroyed, your wives & children carried into captivity and you may be assured that those who escape the fury of our mighty chiefs shall find no resting on this side of the Great Lakes.

The Warriors of the United States will not distress or destroy women children nor old men, and altho' policy obliges them to retain some in captivity, yet compassion & humanity have induced them to sett others at liberty who will deliver you this Talk.

Those who are carried off will be left in the care of our great chief warrior General St Clair near the Miamis and opposite to the Licking River where they will be treated with humanity & kindness. If you wish to recover them repair to that place by the first day of July next, determined with true hearts to bury the Hatchet and smoke the pipe of peace, they will then be restored to you & you may again sit down in security at your old Towns and live in peace & happiness unmolested by the children of the United States, who will become your friends & protectors and will be ready to furnish you with all necessaries you may require. But should you foolishly persist in your warfare the sons of war will be set loose against you and the Hatchet will never

be buried untill your Country is desolate and your people humbled to the dust.

Given under my hand & Seal at Ouiattanon the 4th day of June 1791

(Signed) CHAS. SCOTT
Br. Genl.
D.

Indorsed: E.
In Lord Dorchester's to Lord Grenville No. 102.

[Q 52, p 274]

COL. A. MC KEE TO MAJOR JOHN SMITH.

Copy of a letter from Col. McKee to Major Smith, dated Foot of the Rapids, Miamies, 4th June, 1791.

My letter of the 30th Ultimo, would inform you of everything material to that period.

Since then a Deputation of Chiefs arrived from the Glaize, in the name of the Miamies Towns, as well as themselves to acquaint the Indians assembled here, of an army being actually discovered upon their march on this side of Ohio, and advancing into their Country. About ten days from this date.

In consequence of this intelligence the nations here have determined to move towards the Miamies Towns and there wait the event; should this intelligence be authentic something important must happen in the course of a few days.

There is a Report brought here from the Glaize that Colonel Proctor who it was said was to have brought proposals for Peace to the Indians was seen in the neighborhood of that place and the way to our Camp from a Canadian one Blanchard. But it is now upwards of a fortnight and we have heard nothing more of him. It is supposed that on his hearing of the approach of an army from Kentucky against the Indians he has thought proper to retire towards Pittsburgh.

He was accompanied by three Senecas of the Corn Planter's party and it probable himself; this account has changed the minds of many of the Indians who had before entertained hopes of pacific measures and they all appear now unanimous in defending themselves.

As we are now in hourly expectation of receiving further accounts from above shall take the earliest opportunity of forwarding them to you and have the honor &ca

(Signed) A. McKee

11: D.

In Lord Dorchester's to Lord Grenville No. 95, of 1st July 1791.

[Q 51–2, p 785]

LETTER FROM CAPT. JOSEPH BRANT TO SIR JOHN JOHNSON.

Extract of a Letter from Captain Joseph Brant dated Camp Foot of the Rapids 4th June 1791.

"I take this opportunity of informing you my disappointment of not meeting the American Commissioner at this place as I understand that he was to come for I was then in great hopes that we should have brought the dispute to a conclusion, that is provided they were more moderate than heretofore, instead of which I find that an American Army is now on its way & not more than three or four days march at this moment to the Miami Towns, from Kentucky."

"My situation is become such that I cannot withdraw, without incurring the displeasure of all the nations in this quarter, therefore find myself obliged by every Tie of Friendship to join them in defense of their Country."

"I no doubt have often been very troublesome to you in the many requests made for my own Countrymen, and indeed intruded upon your goodness;—the only one that I have now to make regards my wife & family, who I hope you will always befriend as you have heretofore done, and in case of an accident happening to me, I make no doubt but you'll have the goodness to make your best endeavours to procure her a pension.

D.

Sir John Johnson, Bart.

9:

In Lord Dorchester's to Lord Grenville No. 95, of 1st July 1791.

[Q 51–2, p 782]

MAJOR JOHN SMITH TO GEN. CLARKE.

Detroit 5th June 1791,

Sir, Evening.

I have the honor to inform you that Capt. Elliot is this instant arriving with the account of an American Army being close on the Miami Towns; consisting of it is believed chiefly of militia, and advancing in 15 thin Columns.

I enclose the copies of two Letters, I have received from Colonel McKee.

About two hundred warriors, have passed here within these few days, and Capt. Elliot supposes when the whole Indian force is collected, it may consist of about two thousand five hundred fighting men.

I have the honor to be Sir
Your most obedient humble Servant
(Signed) JOHN SMITH
Major 5th Regt.

General Clarke &ca.

10: In Lord Dorchester's to Lord Grenville No. 95, of the 1st July 1791.

[Q 51-2, p 783]

Return of the Detroit Militia fit for active service who can be drafted without injury to the necessary agriculture of the Settlement with the number that can move as cavalry 8th June, 1791.

	Companies	Strength of the Companies as Cavalry	as Infantry	Remains	Total	Remarks and extracts from the Captains' returns.
	Major McGregors	10	20	75	105	
Captains.	Maisonvilles	----------	----------	134	134	On ne pent, sans prejudice au traveaux en ote-et illes n'ont point assez de Cheveaux pour leur propre ouvrage.
	Mooran	----------	----------	70	70	du quelle nombre je ne pint oté personne, sans canser quelque prejudice au traveaux des habitants. Pour les Cheveaux, de nombre considerable mort, depins quelque années les met dans L' impossible dans fournir.
	Campeau	----------	----------	88	88	Pour les Cheveaux, il n'y a pas sufficament pour les traveaux de terre a culiver, Jé ne crois pas, qu'on piusse prendee personne, sans prejudice a l'agriculture de la terre.
	Nimforton	16	9	71	76	
	Askin	28	----------	10	38	"The whole of the company present has voluntarily offered to go on service, yet as they are all more or less engaged in mercantile business, they would suffer in their absence were more than half of the whole present called on."
	Gamelin	12	18	90	120	
	Benac	12	20	78	110	River aux Raisins, about 40 miles from Detroit
	Total	78	67	596	741	(Signed)

(Signed) GREGOR MCGREGOR—Major—
Commanding the Militia.

11. Copy. D.

Indorsed: Return of the Detroit Militia 8th June 1791—
In Lord Dorchester's to Lord Grenville No. 98, of 27th July 1791.

[Q 52, p 197]

COUNCIL OF WESTERN INDIANS.

Proceedings of a meeting with the Sachems and Chief Warriors of the Six Nations at Buffalo Creek

8th June 1791.

The Fish Carrier, the principal Cayuga Chief answered the message delivered by Mr. Johnston the interpreter from Colonel Gordon and Colonel Butler.

BROTHERS,

We are happy to find that the Commanding officer and Colonel Butler have taken notice of the dispute, that a few days ago happened between some of our young men and some of the inhabitants on our way home from Niagara; we are perfectly satisfied with the measures you have taken, and pleased with your attention to our welfare

We are very happy on reflection to observe, that from Sir William Johnson's administration to this time the King our Father has been careful to place the management of our affairs in the hands of such people, as have studied our interest, and conducted us through one continual regular and safe path, and we hope our steady attachment to the King our Father will convince him, that we are not unmindful of his attention to our interest.

When the King our Father sent Sir William Johnson to take care of us we were perplexed with internal disputes between nation and nation, but from his great care and wise management they were all settled, and from that steady and uniform rule of conduct observed by his successors, we feel ourselves indebted for the happy union of the Six Nations at this time, we are happy to see the King our Father so desirous to restore peace between our brethren the Western Indians, and the United States, to bring which about nothing shall be wanting on our parts, we shall always pay strict attention to what the King our Father recommends being fully convinced that he studies our good.

5 Strings Wampum black & white.

The Farmers Brother, the principal Seneca Chief then spoke.

BROTHER,

We are now ready to set out to meet the Commissioner of the United States upon business, which he tells us is of great importance to our future welfare, and has promised us a present without telling us for what; this is the first present that has been promised us since the peace from that quarter, which excites a great deal of anxiety in our minds. We have been asked, or rather told, by

Governor St. Clair to take up the Hatchet against our Western Brethren, and perhaps this meeting is intended for the same purpose; but we hope Colonel Gordon and Colonel Butler will make their minds easy, our intentions are not for war but for peace, and should anything come to our knowledge that would be likely to interest or effect the King's interests, we will immediately dispatch a runner, with intelligence, and we are determined should the hatchet be offered us we will cover up the Council fire and return home.

The Chief having requested to meet in Council the next day and having met Mr Johnson explained to them the purport of a letter from Captain Brant to Lieutenant Colonel Butler, dated Foot of the Rapids, Miamies River 24th May 1791 as follows—"That the American "Army had crossed the Ohio river, and that scouts with intelligence "are hourly expected, that the Indians were collecting themselves in "bodies from all quarters, that it was uncertain when the meeting "would take place, and that such as were there already, seemed little "inclined for Peace."

The Farmer's Brother then replied.

BROTHER,

We thank Colonel Gordon & Colonel Butler for their attention to us, it excites our gratitude, and if possible will still more strengthen our attachment to the King our Father, Colonel Gordon & the Deputy agent of Indian Affairs know all the steps we have taken, and our determination since Captain Brant's departure, and as writing was a more certain way of conveyance than verbal messages, we request the favor of them to write fully to Captain Brant what has been done here, and we thank him for his attention and exertions in public business, and we will lose no time in communicating to him the result of our meeting at the Painted Post, and we assure him, that we will exert ourselves as much as is in our power for the general good of our people.

The Fish Carrier, Cowkiller, and Onondaga Chiefs spoke to the same purpose.

D.

6.

In Lord Dorchester's to Lord Grenville No. 95, of 1st July 1791.

[Q 51-2, p 773]

JOURNAL.

Copy of a Journal dated Detroit 8th June 1791

The Loups delivered to Capt McKee a prisoner made at Venango, on French Creek, who said he had seen on the 15th of April a certain Col. Proctor, sent from Philadelphia by Congress, to arrange a peace with the Indians, he had with him Senecas & an interpreter, that the next day he was to leave for Buffaloe Creek, near Fort Erie, he adds that the Colonel had said, that the Congress had ordered to raise five thousand men, who would be ready in May, in case the Indians would refuse the peace. It was the same whom Colonel Gordon had refused to engage, who has since been at the Glaize, where he heard, that an army was marching to the Miamis. He had wisely left on his return, saying that his mission would be finished the 10th of May.

A courier from the Miamis the 9th of May reports that the Americans were at the Portage of the White River, they did not follow the same road as last Autumn. There appeared to be Militia & no Artillery. A prisoner that the Indians had made, whom they had afterwards killed & eaten the heart; had said that there were only two thousand men of the infantry & seven hundred volunteer cavalry from Kentucky, that it would not be possible to raise more. Five hundred Indians, Sacs & Renards, who waited some time at the Miamis, returned for want of food, the fourth day after their departure, the Miamis had intelligence that the Americans would advance, they sent after them inviting them to return. The 5th of June on the refusal of the Indians to go for provisions & ammunition to the foot of the Rapids, Capt McKee had sent a piroque of these two articles. The Wabache Indians learned from a man from Post Vincennes that a number of Americans dressed in white coats said to be French had possession of Post St. Vincent & that the garrison had capitulated & had formed a camp near the fort. The Indians thinking that this army was destined to come to the Wabash, immediately left to guard their rivers, that the 2nd of June there were not at the Miamis more than seven hundred Indians, which at this time had been increased by three hundred & forty, which formed a sufficient number to oppose the enemy. If they are not better supplied with ammunition & provisions, they will be obliged to disperse, and will be dissatisfied with the English, who put the axe in their hand, they say that it would be very easy for the English to supply them with these articles by the carriages which

go to the Miamis empty, without compelling them to go to the foot of the rapids, at a time when the enemy was on the march also that they had no carriages to make the Journey. Capt Brant who at the time of his arrival at the foot of the rapids knew that Colonel Proctor would propose peace, said that it was not in his power to support the nations & seeing the other nations so strongly disposed for war, that Proctor would fail & that an army was on the march, changed round & declared that they would not kindle their fire & left the foot of the Rapids the 5th of June for the Miamis.

I send you enclosed the copy of the order, in virtue of which, the Canadian & English Militia of Detroit assembled yesterday the 7th of June & their answer. The repairs of Fort Lernoult were finished the 4th of this month the fort as well as the walls. The same day the officer of artillery commenced to exercise thirty soldiers to serve as artillery, one of the gunboats will be ready in a little while, the two vessels will be ready to launch the 20 or 24th of June.

Copy of a letter addressed to Capt Maisonville dated Detroit 6th June.

SIR

Kindly make a report of your company according to the under mentioned form to enable us to make ours to Lord Dorchester.

1st Total number.
2nd. Number of men which you can furnish.
3rd. Number of cavalry

(Signed) GREGOR MCGREGOR

Commandant of the Militia to which the inhabitants of the fort of Detroit as well as those outside answered, that they would be always ready, as they had always been to defend the government & their property & would obey the first order of my Lord or of his representatives. That this company had been formed by the merchants who desired it in the interest of their commerce, & to engage in a war in which the Indians alone shared; and which had not perhaps the sanction of my Lord, they would not. The company of Maisonville & that on the other shore, had made about the same answer, had objected that they had no horses the illness among the animals having been considerable, they complained much that the Indians had destroyed their animals, & robbed many houses of flour & other things, that they said was in the power of no one to indemnify them for,

which had always been done before, and that they would not willingly after that assist them, but that when real service required it, that they would not do less, than they had already done, fifty two having been at the post with Hamilton.

In Lord Dorchester's to Lord Grenville No. 95, of 1st July 1791.

[Q 51-2, p 787]

J. KNOX, SEC'Y OF WAR, TO MAJ. GEN. RICHARD BUTLER.

WAR DEPARTMENT June 9th 1791.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letters of the 22d and 29th ultimo and of the 1st instant.

The clothing and canteens for Clarke's Battalion must have all reached Fort Pitt on or about the 1st Instant.

Sheet Iron was sent forward in order to make the camp Kettles at Fort Pitt, Camp Kettles ready made would have been rendered useless by the transportation.

The Knapsacks were neither painted nor strapped But the Quarter Master was to forward both paint and straps.

But in order to remedy this matter entirely I have directed a sufficiency to be painted and strapped here and they will be forwarded in a few days.

The Quarter Master says that he consulted good judges on the subject of the Pack Saddles But I believe from your representation that he has been mistaken.

I am satisfied that you have employed some persons to make trees for other saddles if the materials which you mention to make up the pack saddles have not been already forwarded which I believe is the case it shall be done immediately.

The Quarter Master made an arrangement for Boats and the Cavalry Horses I have conceived that Kentucky was the proper place to purchase the Pack Horses and have directed it accordingly. Mr Hodgdon the Quarter Master sat out for Carlisle on the 7th Instant and will be at Fort Pitt by the 12th or 13th. He is amply furnished with the means of obtaining every thing that shall be wanting for the Campaign, and I have directed him to take your advice upon such preparations as you may deem essential and which have already been done.

As the representative of the public in the preparations of the campaign, I feel it my duty and it is most certainly my inclination that every article however minute should be furnished and I have given the directions accordingly.

From the activity of Mr Hodgdon and his ample funds I have no doubt that all things in the Quarter Masters department will be prepared in due season.

The returns of the provisions which you transmitted me it appears that such a quantity of flour is already purchased that no apprehensions may be entertained on that account, until the expedition shall take place and during the operations of the troops dependence must be placed on live Cattle the Posts to be established will require six months salted meat and the other parts of the Ration in proportion. This object the Contractor has promised to attend to and from his information there will be no disappointment.

There are no light Fuzees for the Levy officers. The French arms which have been forwarded are not heavy and I should presume would answer the purpose of all the officers very well.

As the parties of levies excepting the Virginians who are yet to march forward will be armed the arms requested by the State might have been delivered.

The colors for the Levies have not been deemed essential, but at your request they shall be forwarded.

There are plenty of tents gone forward but I believe no Marquees. The nature of the Campaign will render it very improper that heavy tents should be used on the expedition, but the Quarter Master can modify those already gone according to the direction of the general officers.

I am well satisfied that Major Butler has been appointed to the command of the Eastern Battalion of Levies in this state I hope the remaining company will soon be filled and marched.

The object of Colonel Proctor's mission having failed of which he informed you, General Sinclair will no restrain the expedition under General Scott.

I am persuaded that you transmitted to General St Clair the whole of Colonel Proctor's dispatches because on his early receipt thereof much will depend.

You will not retain more troops on the upper parts of the Ohio than shall be necessary for the defensive protection of the frontiers all beyond that number you will order down the River to Head Quarters.

You will also make a perfect arrangement for the collection of those who shall be employed in the defensive protection at the time they shall be required for the expedition.

I enclose you in confidence an estimate of the troops who have marched and who will march in the course of the present month.

The recruiting service has been very dull in New Hampshire Massachusetts and Rhode Island. In Connecticut it has been better I hope however to march Five hundred regulars three year's men in the course of the present month, but this includes Doyle and Beatty and all others to the Eastward. This number is contemplated in the number of the enclosed estimate.

As we shall not have all the three years men I was induced to hope and as you seem to think that a company of Levies could be raised in Fayette, I hereby authorize you to raise one two three or even four companies or a battalion of Levies provided the object could be certainly accomplished by the 15th or 20th of July in the upper counties of Pennsylvania and Virginia.

If you go into this measure you will immediately inform me and General St. Clair thereof for the Counties and advance pay you will draw upon the Pay Master, a great part of the clothing is ready made and shall be immediately forwarded upon your notification.

You could appoint the officers and as soon as the President of the United States shall arrive which will be about the 23rd instant the Commissioners shall be forwarded upon the names of the officers being certified by you.

I am afraid of the instability of gentlemen volunteers and therefore cannot give any encouragement to the idea. The organization of the corps of cavalry is with Major General St Clair who will take Regulars or Levies or both as he shall judge proper. The equipments are excellent and I hope the corps will be of that description. I have suggested Captain Snowden who was of Lees Corps as an officer of Horse.

I consider that all the troops mentioned in the enclosed schedule will be at Head Quarters by the 15th of August at farthest the greater part long before, as I presume that twenty three hundred will have marched from their respective rendezvous on or before the 22d instant But this includes Sevier's Battalion.

There is no frontier battalion of Virginia. Sevier's battalion is of the territory of the United States. South of the Ohio, there are Six Battalions of Levies only, to wit Seviers, Virginia, Maryland These compose the first Regiment of Levies. The second is com-

posed from the two battalions from this State and one from New Jersey.

You mention your taking some measures with the Six Nations, this must not interfere with the treaty which is to take place at the painted post, to be held there by Colonel Pickering on the 17th Instant.

I am of opinion that the Indians must join one side or the other and that the Senecas and others had better join ours than the Enemy's Colonel Pickering is instructed upon this point.

You will I am persuaded join at Head Quarters at Fort Washington, so soon as that you shall judge the service does not longer require your presence at Fort Pitt or as soon as you receive the orders for that purpose from General St Clair. In this case you will undoubtedly give the necessary orders to be observed relative to the collection and transportation of the troops.

But as I have before mentioned to you it is my desire to avoid the least interference with the orders of Major General St Clair. His orders are therefore to be obeyed in all respects.

I am &ca

(Signed) J. KNOX
Secy of War.

Major General Richard Butler.

Indorsed: No. 18.

[Q 58-1, p 162)

CAPT. A. GORDON TO CAPT. JOSEPH BRANT.

NIAGARA 11th June 1791.

DEAR SIR,

I am glad to find by your letter, from the foot of the Rapids, to Colonel Butler, that you was in good health, and I very sincerely hope the business you are engaged in, will be attended with success.

From the inconsistent proceedings of the Americans, I am perfectly at a loss to understand their full intentions. Whilst they are assembling Councils at different quarters, with the avowed purpose of bringing about a peace, the Six Nations have received a speech from General St Clair, dated at Pittsburgh 23rd of April, inviting them to take up the Hatchet against their Brothers the Western Indians.

Can any thing be more inconsistent? or can they possibly believe the Indians are to be duped by such shallow artifices?—This is far from being the case; the Indians at Buffalo Creek saw the busi-

ness in its proper light, and treated the Invitation with the contempt it deserved.

It must strike you very forcibly that in all the proceedings of the different Commissioners from the American States, they have cautiously avoided applying for our interference, as a measure they affect to think perfectly unnecessary wishing to impress the Indians with Ideas of their own consequence, and of the little influence, they would willingly believe, we are possessed of. This my good friends is not the way to proceed. Had they before matters were pushed to extremity requested the assistance of the British Government to bring about a Peace on equitable terms, I am convinced the measures would have been fully accomplished long before this time.

I would however willingly hope they will yet see the propriety of adopting this mode of proceedings, and that peace, an object so much to be desired, will at length be permanently settled.

I am the more sanguine in the attainment of my wishes, by your being on the spot, and that you will call forth the exertion of your influence and abilities on the occasion.

Let me hear from time to time, how matters are going forward, and with my wishes for your health believe me,

Yours Friend

(Signed) A. Gordon D.

Captain Brant.

7: In Lord Dorchester's to Lord Grenville No. 95, of the 1st July 1791.

[Q 51-2, p 777)

JOHN BUTLER TO LORD DORCHESTER.

Niagara 13th June 1791.

Dear Sir,

I have been honored with your letter of the 22nd May last with its enclosed Extracts. In answer to which I am clearly of opinion that every prudent precaution should be taken to put us in a situation to meet the worst, as the present operations of the Americans, altho' under pretence of prosecuting another object, may be aimed at the Posts in the end, and to which their endeavouring to draw the attention of the Six Nations another way seems to give too much reason to expect, and as their Troops are levied and in the Indian Country, the smallest pretext added to their present pretensions, may cause them to make an attempt.

If the Indians should be obliged to fly before this Army and should chance to take shelter under the protection of any of our Forts there is not the smallest doubt with me but they would take advantage of that occasion, for if they find we even continue the accustomed supplies to the Indians at war with them, they will make a handle of it.

By the advice of Colonel Gordon I have sent out Captain Joseph Clement, and my son Johnson Butler on whom I can rely (under colour of business) to see if there is any thing amongst them which indicates their intentions the result of which shall be immediately communicated to you on their return.

If we have further reason to think they aim at this Post, and Oswego, I think a Secret Eye should be kept on the Three Rivers, Big Sodus, and Presque Isle, the two latter places, I think we may rely on the Indians for Intelligence, at the same time our Militia should be put in the best disposition their present situation will admit of, with full confidence that the necessary arms &ca will be put in their hands or lodged in some convenient place but to avoid giving suspicion, I should recommend the latter as the most prudent.

For the present condition of the Militia I beg leave to recommend you to the Returns, from which His Lordship will be able to judge how far they may be serviceable, & to effect any plan with them or the Indians, which His Lordship may think necessary, no Exertions of mine shall be found wanting consistent with the orders I may receive.

I am happy to find by the late conferences that the Indians (a few Individuals excepted) are firmly attached to His Majesty's Interest, to keep them so, and united will require attention assisted, by the means which generally Predominates over them.

I have already brought back those scattering Senecas about the Alleghany River, and near the Ohio; who are settled at Cadaragaras from whence they have been absent since the Peace and hope this measure will meet His Lordship's and your approbation.

I have the honor of enclosing to you here with Copies of our late Councils with the Six Nations, and am with great respect

Dear Sir

Your most obedient and

Most humble Servant

(Signed) JOHN BUTLER

D.

8. In Lord Dorchester's to Lord Grenville No. 95, of 1st July 1791.

LORD DORCHESTER TO LORD GRENVILLE.

[No. 84] QUEBEC 14th June 1791.

MY LORD,

Since my letter No 82 I have had further reports from Lieutenant Colonel Beckwith to the 15th of last month, with the general purport of which I need not trouble your Lordship, as, to prevent delay, he is directed to communicate whatever he may judge interesting, immediately from the States; but a minute of a verbal communication occasioned by my answer (A in No 82) to the request of interference with the Western Indians and of an explanation brought forward by Lieutenant Colonel Beckwith, relative to the misrepresentations of the conduct of our Traders at Detroit, which probably he has not transmitted is now enclosed, as also a copy of my answer on the general tenor of his reports to the 6th of April.

A desire on the part of our neighbours to press forward to the Treaty line, has been visible here in several instances since the peace, orders were therefore necessary for discontenancing all such attempts.

The transactions at Pointe au Fer, alluded to in a message of the Governor of New York to the Legislature of the State of the 4th March, are probably those stated in the inclosed representations, of which no further notice has been taken here, than giving directions to the commanding officer at St. John's on the subject.

In May the commanding officer at that Post was applied to for information, whether the establishment of a Custom house, under the authority of Congress within the King's Posts on Lake Champlain corresponded with his orders, a copy of his report and of my answer are inclosed.

All these things, the Presidents' message to both houses of Congress of the 14th of February, the report of a Committee of the house of representatives thereon in the same month, and the military preparations on the western frontier, call for a constant vigilance and readiness on our part, this has accordingly been enjoined to the Troops as well as to the Indian Department.

As Mr. Proctor, charged, as he says with a commission to invite the different tribes of Indians to a general meeting on the Ohio for the restoration of peace, has lately made his appearance among the Six Nations near Niagara, requesting them to accompany him to the Westward, and lend their aid in the accomplishment of this object. He has likewise applied to the Commandant of Niagara for assistance

to that effect, and for one of the King's vessels to carry him to the West of Lake Erie which the Commandant refused.

By the accounts from Detroit it appears, that the Indians have been active all winter in harrassing the Western Settlements of the States by Small parties from different tribes and quarters, that military preparations and movements in the Indian Country are carried on with vigor on both sides, that the Indians expect further hostilities and that it is doubtful, whether the steps taken by the Deputy Agent at Detroit towards effecting a reestablishment of peace, in consequence of my orders (C in No 82) will have any success.

In this conjunction of affairs it seems expedient to avoid every thing that may tend to involve us in the contest, or in the turn of affairs may expose us to the reproach of acting deceitfully towards either party, at the same time holding ourselves prepared to meet all events, as far as our strength and present condition will permit.

I am with much respect and esteem,
Your Lordship's
Most obedient and most humble Servant
DORCHESTER.

Lord Grenville.

LETTER RELATIVE TO WESTERN INDIANS AND THE UNITED STATES.

[7].

"If the United States were at War with a great or respectable nation the case would be different, a foreign mediation under certain circumstances might be desirable; in that case the manner of the application would be official and of course not to any public officer of that country abroad, but to the administration at home: on the present occasion the thing in its existing shape is inadmissible, and I could not submit such a paper to the Presidents' consideration — the objects of warfare are certain vagrant Indian Tribes who cannot be considered to be on the footing in which such a system as this would place them, however it may be our interest and policy to close hostilities, which are attended with trouble and expence and which indeed may be excited by our frontier people from interested motives, as an Indian War leads to the spending money in their country as well as to the gratification of their individual resentments."

In suggesting the measure of an interference or rather of a pacific commendation on the part of Lord Dorchester, I acted altogether as an Individual, and my judgment led me to this from a sense of the thing and from my conceiving, fomenting such a war could never be any object for such a government as yours, on the contrary I have concluded from these explanations which I have received by your means, of matters in the Western Country, that your trading interests would be advanced by the re-establishment of peace. We shall take occasion in the course of the summer to mark a pacific disposition to the Indians in general and to those hostile tribes in particular, we shall suggest the idea of meeting to discuss the objects of difference, and if Lord Dorchester would suggest that a friendly accommodation & settlement would be a pleasing circumstance to your Government, it might have a tendency to promote it, in all this, I do not speak ministerially to you, although I am sure the thing is so, and that it would not only advance the object but tend to forward the establishment of those greater national points which I have frequently touched upon in our different conversations.

D.

Indorsed:

In Lord Dorchester's to Lord Grenville No. 84, of the 14th June 1791.

[Q 50–1, p 94]

LETTER TO COL. A. MC KEE.

GRAND GLAIZE 15th June 1791.

SIR,

The party of Americans which amounted to 700 Horse ten days ago surprized in the night and destroyed the Ouias and Kikapou Towns killed 40 men and carrying off 30 women & children prisoners.

Five hundred Indians principally of the above Towns, who had luckily left the place two days before it was surprised to assist their friends at the Miamis, pursued them on their retreat with an intent to recover their women & children, but whether they have been able to join them we do not yet know. It is supposed General Clarke commanded the Party, they shaped their course at first as far as the White River directly for the Miamis when all at once they turned off for the Ouias.

The Indians are not cast down but have determined in Council to defend their country to the last.

I have the honor to be
&c &c &c

To Colonel McKee
Foot of the Miamis Rapids

Indorsed: A.
In Lord Dorchester's to Lord Grenville No. 100, dated the 1st August 1791.

[Q 52, p 243]

COL. A. MC KEE TO SIR JOHN JOHNSON.

Foot of the Rapids Miamis 20th June 1791.

Dr. Sir,

My letter of the 28th April last acquainted you of my arrival at this place, and that in obedience to His Lordship's commands, I should use every possible means within the Limits of my power to be informed on what terms the unfortunate troubles between the Western Indians and the American States could be terminated should a proposition of that nature be made by the latter.

The continual alarms of the hostile intentions and preparations of America, ever since that period, has rendered it altogether impracticable to detain here a sufficient number of Chiefs of the different nations for the purpose of deliberating on a Question of that magnitude, altho' more warriors have passed this place in consequence of the messages I sent them to meet me than I had conceived could be collected in so short a space of time; But the pressing importunities of the Shawanese & Miamis Indians, to come to their assistance delivered with the Solemnity of the War Billet and painted Tobacco, hurried them off before any real necessity called for them: the numbers who have thus gone up are 1057 fighting men, which added to the Warriors of the Miamis Towns and the Rivers and villages adjoining will amount to near 2,000 men, by late accounts brought me, copies of which I have inclosed, the American Army, that was on foot, consisted only of 6 or 700 Horse and who had occasioned all the alarm, have retired, after having destroyed a village on the Wabash and taken or killed the old men women & children whom the warriors of that place had left behind them.

As the pacific intentions of the American States are introduced in this manner so very early in the year, I fear little attention will be now paid to any Proposals for a Termination of the Calamities of War, whilst the Indians are heated by the recollections of Injuries so fresh on their minds. I shall not fail however to assemble all the chiefs I can collect together and in that Council which probably may be held in a fortnight, endeavour to fulfil His Lordship's orders; and I shall immediately communicate to you the result of my endeavours and my wishes for the attainment of so desirable an object.

This morning I had the honor to receive thro' the Commanding officer a copy of Mr Motz's letter to you dated the 9th May. "His "Lordship wishes the officers of your Department to consider, "whether in case of an approach of an army, the safety of the "King's posts, may not require that detachments from the Garrisons "& Militia should march forward from Niagara and Detroit and "occupy certain Stations at a distance, what stations they think "most eligible for this purpose and by what force and means they "should be occupied, and upon all these matters they should com- "municate their opinions fully to the Commanding officers of the "respective posts as well as to you."

Thus called upon for my opinion I shall give it with freedom and sincerity.

In case of the approach of an Army the safety of the King's post of Detroit does require that troops should occupy a distant station, and without such aid the post and country will be in immediate danger of falling by surprise. The station which from Experience and my best knowledge of the Country, I conceive to be the most proper and advantageous is the Foot of the Miamis Rapids or its vicinity, the number of Troops to be posted there, ought not to be less than 100 Regulars and 50 Militia in a small work of sod or Picketts. In time of danger during the late war Posts were found expedient both at this place and the Miamis Towns, and should never have been evacuated as long as Detroit was an object of preserving, for in respect thereof these places are the key to it.

Now Sir having given my opinion on the subject required of me I trust His Excellency will accept of it as coming from a heart devoted to His Majesty's service.

Before I close this letter I must beg leave to intreat you, to pray His Lordship to put a stop to the unlimited licence of the Traders to sell Spirituous liquors to the Indians especially in a part of the

Country, where an enemy is most expected, it is the source of every mischief and defeats in a great measure, the commercial advantages that would otherwise be derived from hunting; they are readily induced for Rum to part even with that clothing which the Benevolence of His Majesty orders to be annually given them, and at a time like this from the quantities of spirituous liquors going among them, they may reasonably be supposed to become an easy conquest to almost any Enemy, small quantities might be allowed under Licence from the Commander subject to such regulations as may defeat the present most pernicious traffic, and render the Indians happier among themselves and more powerful friends in case their assistance should ever be wanted.

I have the honor to be with
great respect
Dr Sir
Your faithful and
obedient Servant
(Signed) A. McKee.
D.

Sir John Johnson, Bart.

1: In Lord Dorchester's to Lord Grenville No. 100, dated the 1st of August 1791.

[Q 52, p 234]

RETURN OF ORDNANCE AND MILITARY STORES.

Return of Ordnance and Military Stores, Medicines and Hospital Stores forwarded to Pittsburg for the use of the Troops of the United States by Samuel Hodgdon.

120	Barrels Powder
30	Half Barrels Powder
16,483	lbs Musket Ball
600	lbs Cannon Ball 4 pd.
2,200	Musquets
2,700	Bayonets
2,100	Scabbards
80	Arm Chests
15,200	flints
1,000	Gun Worms

1,000	Screw Drivers
418	Cartridge Boxes with Belts
1,619	Cartridge Boxes without Belts.
1,188	Cartridge Boxes belts
51	Ream Musket Cartridge paper
360	Flanel Cartridges 3 pd
360	Flanel Cartridges 6 pd
18½	lbs Marline
54½	lbs Twine
28¾	lbs Thread
500	Gun Slings
6	Iron Howitzer 3½ Inch
2	Brass Cannon 6 lb.
2	Cannon Carriages 6 lb.
3	Brass Cannon 3 lb.
3	Cannon Carriages 3 lb.
1	Iron Howitzer 5½ lb. & 3½ lb.
3	Howitzer Carriages 3½ lb.
3	Brass Howitzer 5½ Inch
17	Rammers & Sponges
10	Copper Laddles & Wurms
12	Cannon Covers
18	Port fire Stocks
18	lint Stocks
8	Setts trail ropes
3	Elevating Screws
2,500	Brushes & Wires
1	Sextant
2	Nautical Almanacks
100	Horseman Swords
100	Horseman Swords & Belts
100	Horseman Caps
100	Horseman Cartridge Boxes
100	Saddles of Cavalry
100	Bridles for do.
100	Leather Halters
100	Nose Bags
148	Curry Combs
175	Pack Saddles
14	Horsemen Tents

60 Common Tents
4 Drums
6 Fifes
6 Drum Cases
4 Drum Carriages
48 Drum Heads
30 Drum Cords
16 Drum Sticks
24 Set Drum Snares
1,680 lb. Sheet Iron
1,120 lb. Nail Rod Iron
1 Anvil
3 Paint Brushes
104 lbs Blister Steel
1 Box Cannon Iron
3 Boxes of Tin
40 lbs Sheet Copper
2 Setts Tinman's Tools
2 Travelling Forges compleat
3 leather Valices
15 Axes
13 lbs Spilter
30 Shingle Hatchets
108 Chalk Lines
12 Stock Locks
12 Pad Locks
6 Smith's Vices
12 Hand Vices
24 Drawing Knives
48 Chizzels
12 Hammers
20 Scythes
18 Broadaxes
12 Pincers
12 Caulking Irons
20 Cutting Knives
24 Hand Saws
144 Gimblets
24 Scissars
12 2 feet Rules
3 Gross Wood Screws

96 Shoe Knives
22½ lb. Wire
12 lb. Glue
2 Setts Turner's Tools
5 Buttraces
12 Caulking Mallets
8 Scrapers
500 Needles
20 Nelting Ladles
6 Braces with Bitts
12 Spike Shaves
228 Thimbles
24 Hand Hammers
246 Files
51 Rasps
36 Plane Irons
12 Compasses
37 Augers
20 Adzes
4 Tube Boxes & belts
6 Drudging Boxes
3 Dark Lanthorns
4 lead Aprons
3 Budge Barrels
3 Pareing Chizzles
3 Shell Scrapers
3 Copper & Tin Funnels
6 Setts for Fuzes
4 Mallets for ditto
8 Powder Measures
8 Powder Horns
4 Gunners Belts
4 Cannon Gimblets
8 Priming Wires
4 Screw Bills
8 Cannon Spikes
60 Togles for Drag Ropes
20 Camp Kettles
100 Hoes
804 Wooden Canteens & Straps
9 Medicine Chests

10	Boxes of Medicines
2	Barrels of Medicines
98	Company Books
156	Orderly Books
30	Reams Writing Paper
12	lb. Sealing Wax
4	lb. Wafers
228	Boxes Wafers
5,500	Writing Quills

War Office June 16th 1791.

A true copy.

(Signed) R. J. Vanden Brock
Clk.

Indorsed: No. 19.

[Q 58-1, p 168]

J. KNOX, SEC'Y OF WAR, TO MAJ. GEN. RICHARD BUTLER.

War Department June 16th 1791.

Sir,

I have received your letter of the 9th instant. It may be expected that your arrangements will give protection to the upper part of the Ohio I am persuaded you constantly inform General St Clair of your arrangements.

The circumstance of the want of Beef is a strange and unlook'd for event as the Contractor has given me assurances of a full supply of provisions, lest his agents should omit to give him full information upon the subject I have written him, enclosed a copy of your letter and urged him to take the necessary measures or a full supply.

The Quarter Master is furnished with a sum of money for exigencies—The Troops must not suffer for want of provisions while he has money or credit.

The Contractor entered into engagements with the Secretary of the Treasury for to supply the Troops with Rations of provisions for which he is responsible. He says his arrangements are adequate to the end I am not informed of the details but I should suppose General Neville could inform you of the arrangements for supplies.

I generally knew that it was not intended the troops should remain a long time in the upper parts of the Ohio, and that the main

parts of the supplies were supposed to be required at or near Fort Washington.

But the arrangements of keeping the troops a short time on the upper parts of the Ohio must occasion some change in the contractor's arrangements.

I shall apply to the Post Master to order that the Post Rider may stay longer at Fort Pitt.

It is not probable your letter to the five nations will be received at Niagara unless you have entrusted it to a special Messenger Colonel Pickering's treaty is to be held the 17th instant at the Painted Post. I hope your arrangements will not interfere with him.

Neither the remaining Company of the Jersey or Eastern Battalions of this state are completed nor will they be in less than the latter end of this month.

I am assured that all the Tents and Clothing for Clarkes Battalion and Canteens have gone forward some time ago, the painted knapsacks will be sent forward tomorrow.

As Captain Hannah's and Darke's Companies marched the 4th inst from Winchester they must have arrived by this time at Fort Pitt only a few now remain to complete the Virginia Battalion the deficiency being occasioned by desertions.

The first division of the Maryland Battalions consisting of 188 marched about the 12th Instant.

Capt Doyle has marched for Lancaster & Capt Beatty will march from Brunswick tomorrow or next day these two will make about one hundred and fifty.

Two Companies are about embarking from the Eastern States and will I hope be at Brunswick about the 20th to commence their march forward.

Hospital Stores and other Articles necessary for the Campaign are about being sent forward to Fort Pitt.

I inclose you a copy of my last letter.

I am Sir

&ca

(Signed) J. KNOX

Major General Richard Butler. Secy of War.

Indorsed: No. 21.

[Q 58–1, p 173]

CAPTAIN JOSEPH BRANT TO SIR JOHN JOHNSON.

Extract of a letter from Captain Brant to Sir John Johnson dated

MIAMIS RAPIDS 23d June 1791.

"The Shawanese & Miamis are the only Indians that seem to be unreasonable, the other nations are easy advised, however they are all in high spirits. The account of Provisions is the only thing makes me afraid of our success against the Enemy, for they cannot embody themselves any time for want of Provisions, if the English cannot assist the Indians with arms, I hope they will assist them with provision, the Indians can contrive to get Arms & Ammunition some how or other, but the provisions cannot be contrived. I have been councilling the Lake Indians & the Hurons, and the Delawares & have found these nations are reasonable. I hope they will be able to point out a reasonable Boundary Line between them & the Yankees, and give you some satisfaction on the occasion, which will soon be decided as we expect to have a general council to morrow."

D.

Indorsed: 6.
In Lord Dorchester's to Lord Grenville No. 100, dated the 1st August 1791.

[Q 52, p 251]

LORD DORCHESTER TO LORD GRENVILLE.

QUEBEC 23d June 1791.

[No 94.]

MY LORD,

I inclose some further intelligence from Detroit, and from the frontier on Lake Champlain, in continuation of the subject of my letter No 84.

I am with much respect and esteem
Your Lordship's
Most obedient and
Most humble Servant

DORCHESTER.

The Right Honble Lord Grenville.

[Q 51-2, p 688]

LORD DORCHESTER TO LORD GRENVILLE.

Extract of a letter dated

DETROIT 20th May 1791.

I have read a letter from Cahokias dated the 2nd January 1791, signed Le Vallier, which asked a man called Dubois, a Surveyor, to go to L'ance à la Graisse, telling him, your work will be to survey two hundred lands, for each of which you will be paid ten beavers, I am ordered besides to assure you, that it is for the establishment of a town. There are likewise a hundred and fifty lands but I cannot assure you of the work nor fix the price. I hope these advantages will incite you & you will be expected about the end of May.

The Indians assembled in great numbers at the Miamis.

Captain Brant passed here five days ago going to the Miamis with thirty men. The Hurons & Saginaw Indians passed here about the same time.

The Americans, following the report of a prisoner, marched about the 15th of this month. The Indians at the first news went on before.

The traders returned with all their goods. There were 8 or 10 days ago at the Miamis about two thousand Indians.

D.

5:

In Lord Dorchester's to Lord Grenville No. 94 of the 23d June 1791.

QUEBEC 1st July 1791.

[No 95.]

MY LORD,

I inclose some further intelligence from Niagara and Detroit in continuation of the subject of my letters No 84 and No 94, concerning the affairs of the Western Country.

I am with much respect & esteem

Your Lordships most obedient

Most humble Servant.

DORCHESTER.

The Right Hon. Lord Grenville.

[Q 51-2, p 695]

LETTER TO HENRY MOTZ.

Extract of a private letter from Detroit to Mr Motz dated 24th June 1791.

"A few days before the last vessel sailed from Fort Erie application had been made by the commandant to the Captains of Militia to ascertain the force to be depended upon should they be wanted without too much Injury to the crop. I fear that from some misunderstanding my Lord Dorchester may receive contradictory reports on the same subject and as I see with an impartial eye it can do no harm to submit to His Lordship my sentiments on a subject so interesting to the Government. Upon the requisition of the commandant a meeting of the Captains was held, and the proposition fully explained to them. It seems that some of the Captains in lieu of reporting from their Muster Roll on the strength of their own judgement assembled their Companies, and misstating the Terms, enquired for Volunteers. The Result strongly marks the Genius of the two People, The British and Irish Traders flattered with an appearance of confidence declared themselves ready to march and would not even offer an individual excuse where the same House offered more than one head. The idea of a Cavalry being suggested one company agreed to mount themselves. The Canadians on the other hand, who were consulted by their Captains, availed themselves of the supposed Liberty, and to a man refused voluntarily to encounter fatigue or danger without further inducement. However this report may afford matter for political discrimination as to the modes of governing the two people, yet I presume to offer, that the distinction in the two reports will not eventually evidence so great a failure on the part of the French companies, as may strike at first. The British Traders & residents have all a personal Interest to preserve the Indian Trade, and doubtless a warm attachment to the King's Government, but had they received the first Intimation by an order to march it is probable that they would have moved with regret, cavilling with the order, consulting the ordinance, and murmuring against its provisions, whereas the companies of Maisonville, Moreau, and others, which appear the strongest and afford not a volunteer would on receiving their orders obey without murmur, or an Idea of resistance, and once in the field a single Example of Severity for breach of Discipline, would make them useful partizans."

Indorsed: 12.

D.

In Lord Dorchester's to Lord Grenville No. 98 of 27th July 1791.

LETTER TO COL. A. MC KEE.

GRAND GLAIZE 26th June 1791.

SIR,

Since I had the honor of writing you last I have been at the Miamis in order to ascertain the truth of the affair of the Ouiagtanon, they have done more damage than was formerly imagined. A body of between 3 and 400 Horsemen intending at first for the Miamis, surprised a small village of the Ouias on the plains consisting of nine men & their Families, killed eight and carried off one man prisoner with their women & children, the people in the other villages on the Banks of the Wabash imagined they were rejoicing for some prisoners they had brought in & the women & children wished to be spectators, they did not discover their mistake, till they came to a Rising ground close to the village when they were all made Prisoners, a young Boy however found means to escape to Tipicanneau six leagues higher up the River, but no other person coming to confirm his report, they made no preparation for their Defence or flight till the Enemy was close upon them when all fled but three old men who finding they were deserted by the others, crossed the River and made one discharge upon them, when each wounded his man, and the River being high the Americans did not think proper to pursue them.

They have destroyed and Burnt all Mr Jacques Godfroys goods to the amount it is supposed of five Hundred Pounds New York currency.

On their way homeward they sent back sixteen women with a message to their chiefs to go to Post Vincennes, for the remainder and that they expect they will be more sincere in their professions of Friendship for the future. They have still 24 women & children of the principal families—

A war chief of the Ouias who was killed at the first village they have literally skinned, the women who were sent back report, that the Party consisted principally of the French Habitants of the Post Vincennes with about 70 or 80 Americans. The waters are very high and the Cornfields are all overflowed.

I have the honor &c

&c. &c

To Col McKee Foot of the Miamis Rapids

[Q 52, p 241]

COL. A. MC KEE TO SIR JOHN JOHNSON.

FOOT OF THE MIAMIS RAPIDS 27th June 1791.

DR SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your several favors of the 9th and 22nd May, which did not come to hand till the day before yesterday, and I believe the letter I have had the honor of writing you on the 20th Instant will fully answer their contents, all but that part relative to the necessaries for the Indians, the article principally meant was provisions; and indeed the Ammunition, Tobacco and Paint, have been rather scanty, as times have turned out, in other respects you conjecture is right.

Enclosed is a letter with an account of the affair at the Wabash, which I believe to be the most authentic one we have received, every thing on my part shall be done to satisfy the friends of the Wasp, he is much lamented by his nation.

I have the honor to be with great respect
Dr Sir
Your most obedient
humble Servant
(Signed) A. McKEE
D.

Sir John Johnson, Bart.

2. In Lord Dorchester's to Lord Grenville No, 100 dated the 1st August 1791.

[Q 52, p 238]

QUERIES BY CAPT. HENDRICK, ANSWERED BY TIMOTHY PICKERING.

Queries proposed by Captain Hendrick Aupumut Chief of the Muhhe-connuck (or Stockbridge) tribe of Indians, and the answers to those queries by Timothy Pickering, Commissr in behalf of the United States for holding a Treaty with the Six Nations of Indians at Newton in the State of New York June the 27th 1791.

1 Query. Whether if he makes a visit to the hostile Indians, he may assure them, that the United States are sincerely desirous of making peace with them.

Answer. The most solemn assurances may be given for the United States are sincerely desirous of making peace and I have received pointed orders to give every possible facility to the messengers of peace.

2 Query. Whether if the Western Indians consent to make peace, the United States will not, as a condition of peace, oblige them to give up part of their Lands.

Answer. The United States will require no such condition. The Western Indians will retain all their lands, agreably to the treaties of peace subsisting between them and the United States, until of their own will and choice, they shall fairly sell them, unless they should obstinately persevere in their hostilities until the United States shall drive them from their Country; and in that case their Lands will never be restored to them.

3rd Query. If the Hostile Indians should be disposed to make peace, and be willing immediately to commence the negotiation; how shall the knowledge thereof be communicated so speedily as to suspend the operations of the Army of the United States. Should Messengers from those Indians or he himself attempt to go directly to the nearest Military post of the United States, they might be in the utmost danger of being killed by the scouting parties of white men.

Answer. Should the hostile Indians be sincerely disposed to make peace, I have no doubt but they will hit on proper means of communicating a knowledge of it to General St Clair or the Commanding officer of the Troops of the United States in the Western Territory; perhaps by sending some of their warriors accompanied by one or more of the white men living amongst them with a white flag, or by getting some of those white men to come alone with their message and a letter from you. A direct communication in some such way is most desired, lest if a circuitous route be pursued, our troops should begin to operate before the messengers of peace should meet them, and that a letter from you (who are not known to the officers commanding the troops of the United States) may be properly received, I will write to general St Clair, informing him of your character and business, and assuring him that he may perfectly rely on the intelligence you shall give him. And that General St Clair or the Commanding officer may distinguish your letter of intelligence from a counterfeit, it may be proper for you, with your own hand, to write me a request to communicate a specimen of it to him; and underneath I will write the letter proposed. This specimen I will transmit to General St Clair, and a duplicate to the Secretary of War, to forward to General St Clair, without delay, so that when your letter of intelligence shall reach him, a comparison of the hand writing may supercede or remove all doubts of its authenticity, and as you may be obliged, or find it expedient, to send runners to the Allegany River

with your intelligence for General St Clair, I will write to Lieutenant Jeffers or commanding officer at Fort Franklin (which is near the Junction of French Creek with the Allegany River) desiring him to forward without delay any letters which you shall transmit to his care. This letter I will send by Captain Baldwin who is now here but who resides with the corn planter in the neighbourhood of Fort Franklin.

4. What treaties have been made with the Western Indians relative to their Lands.

Answer. For your full information on that subject and other concerns with the Western Indians, I will furnish you with copies of the Treaties made by the United States with the Wyandots, Delawares, Shawanees, Ottawas and Chippewas, in the years 1785 & 1786. I will also give you a copy of the Treaty made last year with the Great Creek Nation of Indians; by which you will see strongly manifested the good will of the United States towards the Indian Nations, for the benevolent spirit, conspicuous in that Treaty, truly marks the kind disposition of the United States towards all the Indian Nations within their limits.

These queries and answers I will transmit to the Secretary of War, and request him to give the necessary orders corresponding with these arrangements. With the same view I will write to General St Clair by the way of Fort Franklin.

(Signed) TIMOTHY PICKERING.

Indorsed: No. 34.

[Q 58–1, p 195]

CAPT. JACOB SLOUGH TO MAJ. GEN. RICHARD BUTLER.

FORT FRANKLIN 28th June 1791.

Extract

"The Bearer Thomas Ray, is one of the persons who was taken by the Indians at Cossewagoe on the 6th of May last, they carried him through the Indian Country of the Miamie Villages, & Detroit, where he was liberated, by Brant & McKee; as he brings news of very considerable importance, I have thought proper to send him on to Fort Pitt immediately; that you may have an opportunity of examining him yourself. This Post from what he says, seems to be a principal with them.

(Signed) JACOB SLOUGH.

Major Genl Richd Butler &c. Fort Pitt.

Extract 7th July 1791

"I wish to know your opinion of Mr Thomas Ray's account of the Indians in the Detroit Country.

(Signed) VANSWEARINGEN.

Major General Richard Butler.

Postcript (Signed) Richard Butler M. G.

PITTSBURG. 25th August 1791.

"Enclosed is a certificate of the Character of Thomas Rhea, which the Inhabitants have given with chearfulness; & I am really of opinion he is a very honest and deserving man & I suspect Major Hart has been mistaken in the person; as he mentioned to you John, instead of Thomas Rhea."

To the Honble the Secretary of the Departmt. of War

Indorsed: No. 35.

[Q 58-1, p 199]

INFORMATION OF THOMAS RHEA.

Mr Thomas Rhea, who was taken prisoner at Cassawago, the 5th day of May (at which time William Gregg was killed) and carried to Sandusky by land, was plundered of 7 horses; also Cornelius Vanhorn with 2 horses, by either 2 Delawares & 3 Munseys or 3 of the latter & 2 of the former. The names Captain Peter, a Munsey, with a piece out of his nose. Another named Jacob Phillips, well known at Detroit, both talk English. Remained at Sandusky to the 21st being 16 days, where was Captain Coon, and from 150 to 200 Indians, at the same place was some war parties, who had brought in, negroes & horses with other property, also one white prisoner, who was left 7 miles above, at an Indian village—during his stay several war parties had come in with scalps & prisoners, on the 8th day, being the 29th an Indian came in with the news Hallo! & informed of a body of troops, describing in 3 columns, marching he said, for the Miami Towns, on which the Indians destroyed the Corn which had been planted, burned their houses and went to Roche de bout —or crossing place of the Miami River, where they arrived in 4 days. About the 28th May at this place was Colo Brandts, McKee, His Son, Captains Bunbury & Silvie, also Captain Elliott—these

officers were encamped on the South side of the Miami River, and had eleven houses raised by the Potowatamies and other Indians, in these they had stores of goods, with arms, ammunition & provisions, which they issued to the Indians in plenty—Vizt Corn, Pork, Peas &c.[m] The Indians came in 1, 2, 3, 4, & 500 at a time, and received their clothing, arms, ammunition, provisions &c and set out immediately for the upper Miamie Towns, and in order to supply the Indians from other quarters, collected at that place, Cerougès loaded with these kind of articles were sent up the Miamie, wrought by french Canadians. Captain Silvie purchased Mr Rhea from the Indians, with whom he staid till about the 4th and sent in to Detroit, at this place also he saw one Dick, who with his wife was taken from near Pittsburgh; McKee was about to be purchasing Dick from the Indians, but found difficulty. Mrs Dick was left at a village at some distance from this place. Mr Rhea also saw a small boy, named Brittle, with the Indians, who was taken from a mill near Pittsburg. These officers only waited to furnish the Indians with the supplies mentioned, and as soon as they had given out, what was necessary, they intended to return to Detroit. We heard Simon Girty say he would join the Indians —and Capt Elliott told Girty that the next day, he was going with a boat load of goods for the Indians, and that Girty might go with him, Mr Rhea had seen Colo Proctor on his way to Fort Franklin, and mentioned in conversation to these officers, that Colonel Proctor was on his way with some of the Senecas, and he expected the Corn Planter would be with him, in order as he supposed to settle matters with the Hostile Nations and that he expected he would—shipping at Fort Erie, to bring him to these people, on the Miamie &c and that the officers in their conversations with each other, said, if they were at Fort Erie, he should get no shipping there &c and that the Mohawks & other Indians that could speak English declared that if him or any other Yankie messenger came there they should never carry messages home with them, this was frequently express'd by the Indians & Girty also a Pat. Hill, declared, Proctor should not return had he 100 Senecas with him, with many such threats, and that every movement and appearance with all their declarations were hostile, and that on or about the 7th of June about 60, or more Canoes, in three partys containing a large body of Indians, came down the Detroit River, they were very uncivilized in their appearance being dressed in Buffaloe skins, with other skins & other furr Breech-cloths, with Bows, arrows, spears, & such

arms, and that they had no guns, and seemed to set no store by them, or knowed little of their use, & had no inclination to receive them that these Indians were three moons in coming and that the other Indians called O.

That about this time was a field day of the troops, which he thinks are about 5 or 600. That after that a field day of the french Militia took place, & 150 of the Canadians, with some others turned out Volunteers to join the Indians and were to set off the day following for the Miamie Towns, with their own horses, after being plentifully supplied with arms, ammunition, clothing provisions &c to fit them for the march.

This day sailed in the Dunmore ship for Fort Erie, where they arrived in 4 days, about the 12th June, there this vessel took in a quantity of large cannon, he thinks as large as 18 Prs with other military stores and better than two companies of artillery, troops destined as he understood for Detroit and the upper Posts.

That while he was at the Ottawa River he saw a war party come in with arms, accoutrements & clothing &c of a serjeant, corporal, & they said 12 men, who had been killed, at some of our lower posts; that a man of the Indian department, offered him one of the coats all bloody, with many bullet & knife holes through it which he refused taking; on which Mr McKee ordered him cloathing out of the Indian Store.

Indorsed: No. 3.

[Q 58–1, p 126]

INDIAN SPEECH DELIVERED TO COL. T. PICKERING.

O'Beal's Town 4th July 1791.

Extract

"A copy of a speech sent to Cohocto where the Council is held."

"The Chief New Arrow, & the Sachems & War Chiefs from Cadracaras and this place, their speech to Colonel Pickering, & their Brothers the Chiefs & Warriors of the Nations now supposed to be in Council, at the painted post."

[Extract]

"Brothers,

"The mad Captain Brant that was sent to make peace with the Western Nations, instead of peace, has taken up the Tomahawk,

it is our desire that you now will endeavour to take it out of his hand, that we may enjoy a peace.

Newhead chief of the five Nations, it was by you he was sent and appointed to make peace, but much to the reverse & our great ruin, if your chiefs do not exert yourself, and take the Tomahawk out of his hand, before it is too late."

(Signed) his NEW + ARROW mark
JOHN + O'BEAL
BIG + TREE
HALF + TOWN
CANA + WAGANDAW
JOHN + DICKENS.

Indorsed: No. 38.

[Q 58–1, p 211]

LETTER FROM COL. A. MC KEE.

FOOT OF THE MIAMIES RAPIDS July 5th 1791.

SIR,

The General Council which I mentioned in my last letter as likely to happen soon was held on the 1st and 3rd of the present month; I used my best endeavours to carry into execution your and His Excellencys commands and I have inclosed my speech, with the answer of the chiefs,* that you may be a more perfect master of the business. With regard to the Deputies who accompany this, the reasons of the several nations were so strong and they themselves so determined, that I could not avoid giving my consent to their going down but I hope they will not be detained longer than absolutely necessary, as their affairs certainly call for their speedy return to this place, where the nations have resolved to assemble in the beginning of September.

I wrote to you that I had bought 500 Bushels of Corn to supply the wants of the distressed people at the Miamis Towns, but the great concourse of Indians who have been waiting so long for the accomplishment of the present business has consumed it all without my having appropriated any part of it to the purposes originally intended; you will therefore perceive the necessity of laying in a further supply, not only for that purpose, but also for the

*Col. McKee's speech and that of the Chiefs in answer mentioned in the first part of this letter was not inclosed—perhaps the deputies may have them who are not yet arrived.

intended meeting in September, which will in all probability be greater than at any former period.

Yesterday Speeches arrived here, from the American States, to the Mohawks, Delaware and Hurons, the Tendency of which appears to the Indians (who have held councils in consequence thereof) calculated to divide them and they have taken up the business in that light and resolved on a General Confederacy of all Nations of their Colour to defend their Country to the last.

I inclose these speeches for your perusal, except that to the Six Nations, which would no doubt be sent you from Niagara long ago.

The Boundary line which was fixed three years ago, and which the Indians now contend for is the River Ohio, as far Eastward as Muskingum then up the river Muskingum as far as the Portage, which crossed to Cayahoga, and from thence in a direct line across the country to Venango and to be bounded upon Lake Erie by a line to be drawn from Venango on that line which divides the line of the Six Nations & the Lake Indians.

I have the Honor to be Sir
your most obedient and
faithful humble Servant
(Signed) A. McKee.

Indorsed: 3.
In Lord Dorchester's to Lord Grenville, dated the 1st of August 1791.

[Q 42, p 239]

MAJOR JOHN STAGG, JR., TO CAPT. JACOB SLOUGH.

Extract

Juillet 5th 1791.
Cap Obel Town.

To Captain Jacob Slough
Commg Fort Franklin.

Sir,

June 24th last, I arrived at Buffaloe Creek, the Chief Onondagey enquired, there was news, came to them by 2 letters from Fort Pitt, which they not yet know the contents of, But that the said letter was directed to the Chief Warriors of the different Tribes, The said letter was handed to one Mr Cornelius Virnney a trader of Buffaloe Creek, who told the chief that the letters was of such consequence, to the nation, that the Indian Runner must proceed with the letter to the Commanding officer of Niagara, who would let them know the con-

tents of it; Mr Virnney told me the 2d letter was an invitation for the five nations to rise up, and join the Americans in a war against the Western Nations, and that Mr De Bartzché, the frenchman was mentioned in one letter, and advize the Indians to rise up to come with him at the order of General St Clair; The said Mr Virnney said that Capt Joseph Brant sent a letter to the commanding officer at Niagara, mentioned that he was in Council at the Miamie Town, with all the Principal Chiefs of the Western Tribes and was in a fair way, to bring the nation to peace. But while they were at Council, there came in a Runner, from the Ohio, and told that the Americans had already crossed the Ohio and advanced towards their Towns, then the Chiefs &c told to Capt Brant the Americans were not for peace, or they would not send an army so immediately the war hatchet was handed about to the Chiefs and Warriors of different Tribes, and accepted, and the last it was handed to Capt. Brant, he saw there was no other way for him to save his life But to accept the former & to rise up and take the command of 1500 Warriors, as you are acquainted to the ways & customs of the white people and Indians &c &c. I excepted but to the greatest of my displeasures.

The Commg. officer of Niagara sent advice, to the chiefs & warriors of the five nations not to detain themselves long with Colonel Pickering at the painted post, but to make the business as short as possible, and to be cautious, as he expected, that Colonel Pickering, would offer them the War hatchet, and for them not to touch it, and to return as quick as possible; That the Superintendent of Indian Affairs, Sir John Johnson from Montreal, was coming & desired to see them all in Council at Buffaloes Creek, to renew Friendship; and large quantity of goods, is to be delivered to them as customary from their Brethren the British.

After hearing the above news I got my friend Rosscranty in a private Council, and advised him to assist me in the business, to advize the five nations, to be friends to the Americans; their Brother Chiefs & Warriors of the 5 Nations, the said Mr Rosscranty gave me his word and honor he would accept my advice and immediately declared to all the Chiefs & Warriors he was turned to my sentiments, and advises them to rise up according to the desires of Govr St Clair then the Chiefs was very well pleased to have me & him to be their friends &c. the next day the chiefs send for Mr Rosscranty and desires him to bring the news and their late determination to their Brothers at the place where he shall find them

returned from the Treaty of Colonel Pickering, or there is yet to suppose (Sic), and to the said Rosscranty to advise their Brothers the Five Nations to rise up according to their Speech would send the copy to you by Captn Halftown. Mr Samuel Lord took the trouble to copy it and was present at the said Council with the Interpreter Malhouse. We told to the old of the Council that the British will endeavour to prevent the 5 Nations to be our friends with the Americans, and their Interest is not to pay attention of all, to the advice of the British as it will be the last for ever of the 5 Nations, if they not comply with the invitation of the Americans, and their offers to friendship, for ever, for their children, & children &c &c.

(Signed) Dg. De Bartchie.

Indorsed: No. 39.

[Q 58–1, p 212]

J. KNOX, SEC'Y OF WAR, TO MAJ. GEN. A. ST. CLAIR.

War Department July 7th 1791.

Sir,

I have the satisfaction to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 26th of May by Captain Pratt.

I have written you regularly by the post every Thursday, and I flatter myself you have received them.

I am sorry that Brigadier General Harmar should take the resolution to resign, as, with you, I esteem him to be a good officer, notwithstanding the loss sustained on the late expedition. I sincerely hope he will reconsider that resolution, and continue in service at least for the Campaign.

The copies of my letters to Major General Butler will inform you of the measures which have been executed for the discharge of the militia and of the guides which he will call out after the troops shall descend the Ohio. I enclose you a copy of mine to him of this date.

And, I also enclose you a schedule of the troops who have marched, and who will march in the course of this month. I think this schedule may be depended upon as the extent. Excepting such additionals as Major General Butler may raise of the number of which, I confess, I am not very sanguine.

If therefore from your own view of the object you should require additional force, you will obtain it in the manner, and of the species of Troops, you may judge proper.

If General Scott's expedition should be successful & satisfactory to the people of Kentucky there could be no doubt of your raising such another body of mounted volunteers altho a less number, perhaps five hundred would be sufficient, I mean that this body, to make up deficiencies to form part of your army, and act under your immediate orders. With such a body of Light troops well commanded & mixed with your regular cavalry it would appear that your movements would be irresistible. I should think at this distance, the expence would be amply repaid by the service of such a corps. They might be engaged for such time, and to be dismissed when you should judge proper.

But of this, or any other effective arrangement you will be the judge. I will write to the Governor of Virginia, that if there should be any collateral orders to be issued by him, that he will please to issue them immediately.

The President of the United States arrived here yesterday in perfect health.

I am not satisfactorily informed of the means the contractor has prepared for the transportation of the rations on the expedition—But, if there should be any deficiencies of any sort in his department, you will not suffer the service to be delayed thereby if in the power of the quarter master to remedy them. But you will also take care not to interpose but in cases of necessity, in which cases you will have a full statement of the circumstances transmitted so that the contractor may be properly accountable for the deficiencies at the Treasury.

I have the honor to be
Sir
With great respect
Your very humble Servt

J. KNOX
Secy of War.

Major Genl St. Clair.

Indorsed: No. 1.

[Q 58–1, p 116]

CAPT. JOSEPH BRANT TO MAJOR JOHN SMITH.

Copy of a Letter from Joseph Brant to Major Smith 9th July '91.

SIR,

At a Council lately held among the Indians they have agreed & concluded to deputize persons from their different tribes to go down to Head Quarters, as it is a matter of the utmost consequence to them, and perhaps may be the means of saving their country from the ravage of the American States in future, I beg Sir, you will be good enough to order if possible a vessel to Fort Erie, immediately in order to give those people a speedy passage, myself among the number, and I apprehend we have but very little time to lose.

(Signed) JOS. BRANT.

D.

7. In Lord Dorchester's to Lord Grenville No. 100 dated the 1st August 1791.

[Q 52, p 253]

MAJOR JOHN SMITH TO GEN. CLARKE.

DETROIT 10th July '91.

SIR,

I have the honor to enclose you a copy of a letter I have received from Colonel McKee, dated the 5th Inst, also the copy of one from Joseph Brant, and am to inform you, that the chiefs will go down from hence to Fort Erie, in one of the King's Vessels, on or before the 13th Instant.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your humble Servant
(Signed) JOHN SMITH
Major 5th Regt.

General Clarke, Lt. Governor &c.

Copy of a letter from A. McKee Esquire to Major Smith dated Foot of the Rapids Miamis.

5th July 1791.

SIR,

At a general Council of the Indians on the 3rd Instant they came to a Resolution to send Deputies from each Nation to Head Quarters,

to represent their Affairs to His Excellency the Commander in Chief in person, the unanimity & earnestness with which they sollicited my assistance in forwarding them down, and knowing that nothing could prevent their going, even without such assistance, induced me to promise I would write to their father at Detroit to give them a Passage in some of the King's Vessels and afford them what other assistance was necessary. I request therefore, Sir, if they should ask it, you will be pleased to give the necessary orders, that they may not be detained longer from hence, than is absolutely necessary.

As the General Confederacy of the Indians will be also assembled at this place, early in September to watch the movement of any force coming into their country, you will likewise see how much wanted a further stock of provisions to be laid in at this place will be, which I have also mentioned to the Superintendant General.

(Signed) A. McKee.

[Q 52, p 252]

LETTER TO MAJ. GEN. RICHARD BUTLER.

War Department July 14th 1791.

[Duplicate.]

Sir,

I have received your two letters of the 7th inst, I am happy to learn that all arrangements are in the promising train you state.

You will report particularly the arrangements you make with the County Lieutenants during the absence of the army.

The defects relative to beef I am assured have been remedied.

I hope the reports relative to General Scott's success may be true to the utmost extent but I am ignorant of what they are, not having received any information on the subject.

Captain Phelon did not march on the day I expected. He will probably halt to-day at Reading and move on to-morrow. He will take under his orders at Carlisle all the Levies who may be there, any deficiencies in Major Butler's Battalion must be attempted to be completed by Major Smith who may continue recruiting until the 25th when he must march. I write to Major Butler by this post to repair immediately to Fort Pitt.

Major Paterson having left this city some days ago will be at Fort Pitt before this letter.

About one hundred recruits of the Regulars from the eastward are directed to move on, But they cannot arrive at Fort Washington much before the 1st of September therefore I do not estimate them for the expedition, the deficiency must be made up by the General from the district of Kentucky of such species of troops as he shall judge proper.

All the Jersey Levies who shall be recruited by the 25th shall at that time move forward perhaps they may amount to twenty five or thirty.

Doctor Slough having resigned you will appoint a successor and inform me thereof I really believe Doctor Brown one of the Mates would well answer the purpose, I presume the Maryland and Virginia Battalions have Mates.

I am Sir &ca.

Major General Richard Butler.

Indorsed: No. 22.

[Q 58–1, p 176]

LETTER TO MAJOR GENERAL A. ST. CLAIR.

[Duplicate.]

WAR DEPARTMENT 14th July 1791.

SIR,

On the eleventh of this month I had the satisfaction to receive your favor of the first of June.

The fate of General Scott's incursion must have been decided long ere this, but we are in the dark as to the result. It was reported at Fort Pitt on the seventh, that he had succeeded greatly, but the particulars of the report were not transmitted to me.

The letters from Major General Butler at Fort Pitt are encouraging as to the supplies, the state of the River and the general tranquillity of the frontiers.

General Butler has most undoubtedly transmitted you, Rhea's affidavit although some things contained therein may be doubted, yet there is strong cause to believe that others are true. I transmit you a copy of my letter to General Butler on receiving Rhea's information.

We must by all means avoid involving the United States with Great Britain, until events arise of the quality & magnitude as to impress the people of the United States and the world at large of the rank injustice and unfairness of their procedure. But a war with that power in the present state of affairs, would retard our power, growth and happyness beyond almost the power of calculation.

The information of Rhea will serve to guide your measures and seems to strengthen and rivet the propriety of assuring the position with a strong hand mentioned in your instructions.

I inclose you duplicates of my letters to you, and Major General Butler of the seventh instant a duplicate of the schedule therein enclosed, a duplicate of mine to General Butler of the twelfth and of mine to him of this date.

The hundred regulars mentioned in the Schedule to march by the first of August will I hope be encreased to one hundred and fifty; I judge from appearances. But it may be doubted whether these will arrive in time for the expedition which I presume you will be in readyness to commence at the farthest the first of September.

I shall with the approbation of the President of the United States, continue the recruiting service in the Eastern States until the first of October—during which time it may be expected we may obtain two hundred and fifty or three hundred regulars in addition to those supplies specified in the enclosed Schedule.

I hope however that you will be able with the bounty of Six dollars to fill up your regular regiments from the levies—You will please to let me have your opinion of the probability of this event.

I am
with great esteem
Your most obedient
Servant
(Unsigned)

Major General St. Clair

Indorsed: No. 2 Duplicate.

[Q 58–1, p 123]

LETTER FROM COLONEL TIMOTHY PICKERING.

Extract of a Letter from Colonel Timothy Pickering, To the Secretary of war dated

NEWTOWN 16th July 1791.

"Captain Hendrick set off the 13th Instant, on his journey to the Western Indians; He goes by the way of Niagara to the Grand River, which he may reach in 8 days; from thence to the River of France (as it is pronounced to me) is about 20 miles then he will go down that river, in a canoe to near the Western End of Lake Erie, and so to Detroit. This is a voyage of about 12 days. From the information he had received, he said it would take him about 6 days to go from Detroit to the hostile Indians towns. So his whole journey may take up thirty days."

Compared.

(Signed) JNO STAGG, JUNR.
Chf Clk.

Indorsed: No. 40.

[Q 58–1, p 215]

LETTER FROM CHARLES SCOTT.

Copy of a letter dated

DETROIT 20th July 1791.

SIR,

A person whom I rely on from the Illinois reports that the subjoined council has made much impression on the minds of the Indians, who inhabit the River Illinois & St Joseph & which has not reached the Indians of the Miamis, who are of little consequence, the threats of authority to raise four thousand men is of so little consequence that they pay no attention to it. In spite of the large party all would desire the proposed conditions, much rather peace than war. They want the good will of government. Many of the chiefs propose to go to Canada, others say that it is not necessary seeing that their resolutions are written which Brant some days ago was the bearer. At the Illinois the Spanish have built a new fort; many of the French who were settled at Cascatias, have gone over to the Spanish, the garrison is not more than thirty men & forty at L'anse là Graisse, which is a post for the traders. The Americans in this part show

Sixteen Cannons of 6 & 9 lbs.

much inconstancy, scarcely have they dug up the ground when they abandon it to go lower down the Mississippi, they await the troops this Summer, and fear on the appearance of war that the English will not come by Michilimakinac or Detroit to war. If once the Indians should have the advantage of treating for peace on the conditions that the Ohio should be the boundary the Indians would cede them to Government, & we would allow them to establish forts on the banks of the Ohio, on the Wabash on the Rivers Illinois & Mississippi & the advantage of trade.

[Q 52, p 274]

J. KNOX, SEC'Y OF WAR, TO MAJ. GEN. A. ST. CLAIR.

WAR DEPARTMENT 21st July 1791.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the thirteenth of June—by the Post of this morning, And I enclose you a duplicate of mine of the fourteenth instant, the copy of the contract of provisions, and a letter from the President of the United States to the Marshall of Kentucky; a copy of mine to Major General Butler of the fourteenth and of mine to him of this date.

By my letter to Major General Butler, combined with those written to you, you will observe the progress of your force, and the orders I have given him from time to time.

As Capt. Phelen will probably be the last of the Troops, who will march from the Eastward to Fort Pitt, so as to be of service in your expedition you will before this, have formed your judgment of the auxiliary force you will require from Kentucky, and have made your arrangements for obtaining it accordingly.

I have urged Mr Duer repeatedly, to take all the necessary steps relative to an ample supply of provisions and to obtain the means necessary for the transportation thereof, and I am given to understand that he has made the arrangements accordingly. I sincerely hope this to be the case. But as he is not personally present, some doubts arise as to the arrangements of his substitutes.

At this distance, I can only repeat the observations, which I have had the honor to make to you before—That in the present state of public credit, the public interests must not suffer in anywise.

That if the contractor's agent shall not have provided the articles necessary in his department, that you will make effective arrangements to supply the deficiencies. That in all cases of this nature you will of course transmit the requisition upon the contractors agents in writing, and obtain their answers in the same manner. That you will transmit these several papers in order that they may be acted upon at the treasury.

I omitted in my last to reply to your observation relative to Colonel Sargent.

The office of adjutant general is not provided for by the laws. In case therefore of an officer of that description being appointed, as seems to be indispensibly necessary, he must depend upon an after provision being made for him by Congress, of which there will be very little doubt. It must be left to your view of the subject to determine the rank and pay which shall be offered such an officer for the expedition, but they certainly ought not to exceed that of a Lieutenant Colonel.

We have had for a week past reports by way of Fort Pitt, and of Kentucky of the favourable issue of General Scott's expedition, but nothing to be entirely depended upon.

If Colonel Edwards Lieutenant of Bourbon should go upon the expedition you mentioned, it is to be hoped he will meet with some marked success.

I have no information of Colonel Pickering's treaty yet being closed. It was attended by about eight or nine hundred of the different tribes, men women & children. As he has nothing to request of them but to be quiet, there is little doubt but his mission will be successful.

I enclose you a copy of de Barbzche's information, which has been sent by Major General Butler, who may not have taken a copy of it. The information and the speech appear to be such as to deserve some credit. I therefore enclose it that it may be associated and compared with other information.

The President of the United States has commanded me to urge, that as soon as your troops are assembled or such portion thereof as you may judge proper, that you commence the establishment of such of your posts of communication, to which your force may be adequate.

He is greatly anxious, that the campaign be distinguished by decisive measures so that the expence incurred may be manifestly useful and important.

I have the honor to be
with great esteem
Your humble Servant
(Signed) J. KNOX
Secy of War.

Major General St Clair.

Indorsed: No. 2.

[Q 58–1, p 119]

J. KNOX, SEC'Y OF WAR, TO MAJ. GEN. A. ST. CLAIR.

WAR DEPARTMENT July 21st 1791.

SIR,

The bearer Doctor Gresson is one of the Emigrants from France, who has decided to incorporate himself among our citizens.

He is recommended as a gentleman of Science, and professional knowledge as a Surgeon.

I have recommended to Major General Butler to have him examined by professional characters, and if the result should be favourable, to appoint him to one of the vacant battalions of Levies. In case the said vacancies should be filled up, I recommend him to you for such temporary employment in the medical line, as you may with propriety employ him in.

I am Sir
with great respect
your most obedient
humble servant
(Signed) J. KNOX
Secy of War.

Major General St Clair.

[Q 58–1, p 130]

J. KNOX, SEC'Y OF WAR, TO MAJ. GEN. RICHARD BUTLER.

WAR DEPARTMENT July 21st 1791.

SIR,

The Bearer Doctor Grasson is one of the Emigrants from France and recommended to me as a gentleman of science and professional knowledge.

I request you would be pleased to cause him to be examined by professional characters and if the report should be favorable that you would appoint him a Surgeon's mate to any of the vacant Battalions and if there should not be any vacancy that you would permit him to repair to Head Quarters.

I am Sir
&ca.

(Signed) J. KNOX.

Major General Richard Butler.

Indorsed: No. 23.

[Q 58–1, p 178]

J. KNOX, SEC'Y OF WAR, TO MAJ. GEN. RICHARD BUTLER.

WAR DEPARTMENT 21st July 1791.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the fourteenth instant and to enclose a duplicate of mine of the same day. I have also received a letter from Major General St Clair of the thirteenth of June at which time no troops had arrived. But on the fourteenth and fifteenth Major Ferguson with Kirkwood and Armstrong's companies and also Montfort from North Carolina is arrived.

It affords me great satisfaction to learn of the detachments descending the river under Major Gaither on the thirteenth instant.

I most earnestly request that all the troops be instantly collected and embodied for Head Quarters with all possible dispatch.

Captain Beatty will have reached you by this time. Captain Phelon with about two hundred and fifty regulars and levies will leave Carlisle to-morrow.

Captain Newman with about sixty regulars and levies will leave this city on or about the twenty fifth and about one hundred more will arrive at Brunswick in a few days, But I do not estimate that these will arrive in time for the expedition.

Major Heart will set out from this city tomorrow.

The Shoes and colers will also leave this tomorrow.

I have urged Mr Duer the contractor to take all necessary measures relative to provisions which I have been assured has been done. Major General St Clair in his letter of the thirteenth writes thus.

"The contractors have got forward about a thousand barrels of flour and Elliot & Williams have likewise about a thousand at this place, which should it be wanted I consider as so much in the hands of the public and the contractor's agent is gone to Kentucky to purchase beef in which he will meet with no difficulty now they propose to transport the flour by and by. I have not nor have they any person here who can inform me"

Major Heart has informed me that John Rhea's character is truly infamous and no dependence to be placed thereon.

Were one to form a judgment of the conduct of the British by what appears to be their true interests they cannot urge the Indians to a war with the United States and their agent here is pretty strenuous in asserting the contrary of Rhea's information.

De Bartzches information as transmitted by Captain Slough appears probable there cannot be any doubt from Colonel Proctor's information but that Brandt went to the Miamis towns and probably for the object of peace, and it is not improbable but Sir John Johnson's proposed treaty is to the same effect.

Colonel Pickering informs me that as it would be impossible for the Indians to be at Fort Franklin by the twentieth instant he shall not attempt to influence any of them to join our army and that he has understood that any such attempt would be ill received.

The great object of Colonel Pickerings treaty was to keep the Six Nations quiet and to prevent their joining the opposite side by drawing them a different way.

It was indeed added that it might be an additional cement to obtain a party of sixty or seventy of their young warriors who could with difficulty be restrained from joining one side or the other.

We have yet no official news from Scott the reports from Kentucky are that he has succeeded which I sincerely hope may be the case.

I am persuaded you will descend the Ohio at the earliest moment the service will require. Indeed it will be proper that both you and

the Quarter Master should be at Head Quarters as soon as possible. Colonel Gibson or Colonel Darke may be left to superintend the remaining embarkations. But every sort of stores for the campaign which shall be arrived at Fort Pitt must precede or accompany Captn Phelon.

The President of the United States to whom I have submitted your letter of the fourteenth instant, is exceedingly anxious that Major General St Clair should commence his operations at as early a period as possible, and he has commanded me to urge that you and all troops within your orders descend the Ohio immediately.

I have heard nothing from Brigadier General Sevier since the fifth of June when he informed me of three companies being raised and soon to march.

I am Sir &ca.

Major General Richard Butler. (Signed) J. Knox.

Indorsed: No. 24.

[Q 58–1, p 179]

MAJ. GEN. RICHARD BUTLER TO LIEUT. J. JEFFERS.

Pittsburg 26th July 1791.

Sir,

You will please to proceed with all possible dispatch to Fort Franklin where you will resume your command subject to the orders already considered as the standing Orders of the Post. You will take with you and under your care the two Indians (Senecas) now at this post. And as the accounts from the Six Nations are so various and so ill understood, it appears to me necessary that you should proceed to the Corn Planters Town and as a proper Interpreter is of the utmost consequence in transacting Business with Indians you will take with you Mr Joseph Nicholson Interpreter for the United States.

You will make the most accurate observations of the conduct and Disposition both of the chiefs & common people towards the United States and endeavor to know what impression is made on them at the Treaty of the Painted Posts. You will know if the Chiefs are invited to a Treaty or Council at Niagara, by whom they are invited, whether the commanding officer, the Indian Agent, Col. Brant, or other person & for what purpose, what time the council is to commence, what proportion of the Chiefs mean to attend, whether those worst or best

disposed to the interest of the United States &ca what number of the Western Chiefs or if any came with Brant to Niagara, their Errand or Intention for coming, whether to try to persuade the Six nations to join them against the U. S. or to assist them in making peace between them and the U. S. what time they are to return &ca. You will be particular in putting the chiefs in mind of the message of Governor St Clair & recommending it to their attention, also the speech sent by me, by the Big Tree and Broken Twig on the 5th of June last and let them know we have had no answer to either of them. You must be particularly cautious in your conduct and make use of no Declaration menace which may be construed hostile to the British, avoid every thing that can possibly give them cause of complaint against the U. S., be circumspect but should you meet any of their officers be Respectfull to yourself. Find out every thing possible during your stay relative to Indian affairs, and if there is any Reinforcement come to Niagara lately, if they have made any new or strong Repairs. What was the Result of Brant's mission to the west, whether they think the Western Indians still determine to be Hostile what numbers were collected at the Miami whether they separated to meet again & at what time &c.

Should you not meet with the Information required at the Corn Planter's Town and you think it may be obtained, at some adjacent Town you are at Liberty to proceed to it with the Interpreter provided your stay is not longer than to have your Information by the return of Mr Nicholson to me against the 20th Day of August, but least I should have left this, direct in my absence, to be forwarded to Major Craige, and send a duplicate for the Secretary of war.

In full confidence that you will perform this service with critical punctuallity

I have the honor to be Sir
Your obt humble, Servt
(Signed) Richard Butler
Major Genl.

Lieutenant J. Jeffers
1st. U. S. Regt.

P. S. Should you receive any accounts on your arrival at Venango be pleased to Transmit them by the return of the Canoe.

A true copy
(Signed) J. Morgan.

Indorsed: No. 36.

[Q 58–1, p 201]

MAJOR JOHN STAGG, JR., TO MAJOR GENERAL A. ST. CLAIR.

War Department July 28th 1791.

Sir,

The Secretary at war being absent for a few days at New York, I am commanded by the President of the United States to send you the enclosed communications from Colo Timothy Pickering, which have been received in the absence of the Secretary, relative to Captain Hendrick Aupumut Chief of the Stockbridge Indians who is gone forward on an embassy to the hostile Indians to persuade them to listen to the voice of peace.

I have the honor also to transmit you extracts of Colo Pickering's letters to the Secretary at war dated the 16th and 21st instant on the same business, and also a duplicate of the Secretary of Wars dispatches to you of the 21st instant.

I have the honor to be Sir
with great respect
your most obedient
humble Servant
(Signed) Jo. Stagg, Junr.,
Chf Clk.

Major General St Clair.

Indorsed: No. 4.

[Q 58–1, p 131]

TOBIAS LEAR, SEC'Y, TO MAJOR JOHN STAGG, JR.

United States July 28th, 1791.

Sir,

"The President of the United States directs me to inform you that he thinks it best for the letters and papers from Coll Pickering to General St Clair to be sent to General Butler without a seal, that he seeing the necessity of their getting to General St Clair as soon as possible may use the best means of conveying them to him with dispatch & safety."

I have the honor to be Sir &ca
(Signed) Tobias Lear
Secretary to the President of the United States.

"Major John Stagg
Principal Clerk in the Office of the Secretary at War."

Indorsed: No. 9.

[Q 58–1, p 145]

MAJ. JOHN STAGG, JR., TO MAJ. GEN. RICHARD BUTLER.

WAR DEPARTMENT July 28th 1791.

SIR,

In the absence of the Secretary at war who is now at New York I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter dated the 21st instant with the enclosure and to transmit you herewith a duplicate of his communications to you of the same date.

Captn. Newman of the 2d Regt of regulars with about 80 men will leave this city to morrow morning for Fort Pitt.

Captain Buel was to embark yesterday at Middletown in Connecticut for New Brunswick with a complete company of recruits for the 2d Regt of Regulars. As soon as this company arrives at New Brunswick it will immediately be pushed forward to Fort Pitt.

We have received the pleasing tidings of General Scott's expedition and the President of the United States has directed them to be published.

I enclose you one of the newspapers.

I have the honor &ca

(Signed) JNO STAGG, JUNR.
Chf. Clk.

Major General Richard Butler.

P. S. I have also the honor to transmit you the enclosed dispatches for Major General St Clair which you will please to forward with all possible care and expedition.

(Signed) JNO STAGG JUNR.

Indorsed: No. 25.

[Q 58-1, p 183]

LORD DORCHESTER TO LORD GRENVILLE.

[No 100.] QUEBEC 1st August 1791.

MY LORD,

I inclose further information concerning the affairs of the western Country in continuation of my letter No 98.

I am with much respect and esteem
Your Lordship's
most obedient and
most humble Servant
DORCHESTER.

The Right Honl Lord Grenville.

Schedule of the Inclosures.

1. The Indian agent of Detroit to the Superintendant General of Indian Affairs, Foot of the Miamis rapids, 20th June 1791. An Indian village on the Wabash destroyed by a party of horse from the army of the States. Difficulty of restoring peace increased thereby, proposes nevertheless to collect the Chiefs for the consideration of the subject, the Indian force near 2,000, thinks the safety of Detroit requires the establishment of a post at the foot of the Miamis rapids, in case of the approach of an army points out the necessity of restraining the sale of spirituous liquors to the Indians.

2 The same to the same from the same place 27th June 1791, acknowledges answers to former letters concerning the present demand of more than usual supplies of provisions &c and states that other necessities have been rather scanty.

3. The same to the same from the same place 5 July 1791, reports that he has had a general council with the Indians, on the subject of the reestablishment of peace. Deputies from the western nations are coming down to Lower Canada, transmits messages from Governor St Clair to the Delawares and Wyandots, or Hurons, which the Indians consider as having a tendency to divide them, and they resolve in a general confederacy to defend their country. He also describes the boundary line, which the Indians contend for.

4 Letters to the Indian Agent of Detroit of the 15th and 26th June 1791, giving an account of the destruction of the Indian village upon the Wabash mentioned in No 1.

5 Messages from Governor St Clair to the Delawares and Wyandots 30th April 1791, alluded to in No 3.

6 Joseph Brandt to Sir John Johnson, Miamis Rapids 23d June 1791, describes the dispositions of the Western Indians with respect to the terms of peace, and apprehends they must suffer from the want of provisions.

7 The Commandant of Detroit to Major General Clarke 10th July 1791, with a letter from Mr McKee and one from Joseph Brant on the subject of the Deputation from the Western Indians to the Commander in Chief.

8 Directions to the Superintendant General of Indian Affairs, and to the Commandant of Detroit, Quebec 1st August 1791, concerning the present demand of more than usual supplies of provisions and necessaries.

9 To Sir John Johnson of the same date, requiring information concerning posts mentioned by the Indian Agent of Detroit to have been established during the late war at the foot of the Miamis Rapids and at the Miamis towns.

D.

Indorsed: Quebec, 1st August 1791.
Lord Dorchester No. 100. R. 22d Sepr.

(Nine enclosures.)

[Q 52, p 231]

LORD DORCHESTER TO SIR JOHN JOHNSON AND MAJOR JOHN SMITH.

QUEBEC 1st August 1791.

SIR,

It appears from Mr McKee's reports, that the execution of the orders, given him, to ascertain the terms, upon which the Western Indians may be disposed to a restoration of peace with the United States, demand a more than usual supply of provisions, and that other necessaries have been rather scanty.

The habitual manifestation of the King's benevolence and friendship towards the Indians places the duty of his servants, to afford them every reasonable relief and comfort in their power upon all occasions, in the clearest light, but this duty requires additional force, in an Instance like the present of the Indians being called together for the desirable purpose of re-establishing the general tranquillity. They must not therefore be allowed to suffer any distress in consequence of their compliance with this request.

Your discretion will of course be guided by these considerations.

I am with regard &ca.

(Signed) DORCHESTER.

D.

To Sir John Johnson, Bart, and
Major Smith
Commanding at Detroit.

Indorsed: 8.
In Lord Dorchester's to Lord Grenville No. 100 dated the 1st August 1791.

[Q 52, p 254]

HENRY MOTZ TO SIR JOHN JOHNSON.

QUEBEC 1st August 1791.

SIR,

Mr McKee's letter to you of the 20th of June, states, that during the late war posts were found expedient both at the foot of Miamis rapids & at the Miamis Towns, and that they should not have been evacuated while Detroit, to which he considers them as the key was thought an object worth preserving.

Lord Dorchester thinks this idea judicious, and wishes to be fully informed of the strength and nature of the posts Mr McKee alludes to, when they were erected, and when, and by whose order they were abandoned.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient
humble Servant
(Signed) HENRY MOTZ.
D.

Sir John Johnson, Bart.

Indorsed: 9.
In Lord Dorchester's to Lord Grenville No. 100 dated the 1st August 1791.

[Q 52, p 256]

J. KNOX, SEC'Y OF WAR, TO MAJ. GEN. RICHARD BUTLER.

WAR DEPARTMENT the 4th of August 1791.

SIR,

This morning I have been honored with the receipt of yours of the 28th ultimo.

It affords great satisfaction to learn that all the troops and Stores are in readiness and will descend the Ohio immediately.

The President of the United States is extremely anxious that the Troops should be immediately assembled at Fort Washington. I am persuaded from your former letter that they have all descended the Ohio and therefore I shall be very brief in this letter.

I calculate that Captain Phelon, will be at Fort Pitt about the 6th or 8th.

Captain Newman marched with about eighty three non commissioned and privates from this city on the 30th Ultimo, and Captain Buel will probably march from New Brunswick on the 8th or 10th

inst. But neither of these are estimated for the campaign. The recruiting Service for the regulars will still be continued and the recruits forwarded by companies.

I inclose you the certified List you request. As a Board of officers will adjust the rank of all the officers, I conceive it would be improper to give any opinion relative to the Rank of Colonel Darke and Gibson.

I hope you have taken effectual measures to suppress the officious interference of De Bartzchie the Frenchman or any other person with the Indians, such conduct is pernicious and no good can result therefrom.

Colonel Pickering's treaty is finished satisfactorily. I have not received the particulars but I expect him in town daily.

Colonel Pickering did not propose that any of the Warriors should accompany our Army, he found that such a proposition would not be acceptible. It is probable Sir John Johnson has called the Indians to a treaty at Buffaloe Creek.

The object we shall endeavor to learn.

It is well Brandt has returned and if it be true he has brought some Western Indians with him, it is most probable we shall soon hear from them.

With great respect
I have the honor to be Sir &ca
(Signed) J. KNOX
Secy of War.

Major General Richard Butler.

Indorsed: No. 26.

[Q 58-1, p 185]

J. KNOX, SEC'Y OF WAR, TO MAJOR GENERAL A. ST. CLAIR.

WAR DEPARTMENT 4th August 1791.

SIR,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your favor of the 6th July, by the post this morning, covering a duplicate of yours of the 26th of June, containing General Scott's enclosures. Your letter of the 23d of June and the first of yours of the 26th of June, have not yet been received.

Brigadier General Scott's dispatches were received by Lieutenant Billi, on the 26th Ultimo. The success of his expedition will prob-

ably be attended with exceedingly beneficial consequences, and prepare the minds of the Indians for that peace, which only can save them from destruction.

I should hope by the time you can receive this letter you will also receive the whole of your force from Fort Pitt, Phelon's detachment included.

I have not heard from General Sevier since the 5th of June; he then informed me that nearly three companies were completed and would march in a few days. As he was furnished with money for all objects and clothing I hope there will not be any failure.

But as Phelon is considered as the rear guard of your troops for the expedition, of which you have been informed; as you possess all the information of your force which is in my power to afford; and as you embrace the objects to be performed and the difficulties to be surmounted, you will be entirely competent to decide upon the additional force to be required, and I am persuaded that you have taken efficient arrangements to obtain such additional number from Kentucky and of such species, as you shall judge adequate to make up all deficiencies.

Captain Newman marched from this city with eighty three non commissioned and privates, regulars, on the 30th ultimo, and Captain Buel will march from New Brunswick on the 10th instant, with detachments from New England and such numbers as are in this city to make up probably about one hundred and twenty regulars more. But, neither of these detachments will arrive in time to make part of your army. In addition to these detachments I presume there will be about two hundred and fifty, or three hundred more regulars inlisted and marched between the 10th instant and the first of October, after which it is probable the recruiting service will be suspended during the winter season.

But as I have before intimated it is most probable you will be able to fill up your regular regiments by recruits from the Levies.

The powder & lead which you request were early forwarded from this city to Fort Pitt and ought to have formed part of Major Ferguson's convoy. The Quarter Master will forward them. The five & half inch shells and shot you request shall be forwarded immediately, but it is not possible for them to arrive in time for your expedition. The quantities you have on hand will probably be sufficient in the first instance for your posts, and as many as you can carry.

On the 17th of March I ordered two hundred shots & shells to be forwarded for each piece of artillery then directed for the Posts. Mr Hodgdon depended on a furnace at Fort Pitt for these articles, by which the transportation would be saved.

He on the 28th July writes me word they cannot be had.

You mention that you have directed the Contractors agent to make provisional agreement for eight hundred pack horses to transport the provisions for the army. I am persuaded that you will direct no more than shall be requisite to give efficiency to your movements, and your judgment must be definite on the case.

But I am apprehensive from a conversation beween you and the contractor in my office, that he has calculated on a far less number. The idea was then entertained that posts of communication were to be established and the supplies carried from one to the other.

I shall inform him of your opinion and request him to extend his arrangements to the number you may direct.

As you will take as little baggage with you as possible, the numbers I have contemplated in the Quarter Master's Department will not exceed three hundred pack horses, but, I have directed him to comply with your orders for such further numbers as you may direct.

Major General Butler writes that Lieut. Jeffers is arranged at Fort Franklin agreeably to your orders.

Major General Butler will inform you particularly of the arrangements he has made for the defensive protection of the upper Countries of the Ohio. The liberal provision he has made will most probably be satisfactory to the people of that part of the frontiers. You will also please to state particularly the arrangement you may think proper to make on the parts of the Ohio below the Kinkawa.

It will be highly proper to check the spirit of desertion which you mention, by some early and decided examples.

The rules and articles of war will probably undergo a revision at the next session of Congress, and if possible some grades of punishment be obtained between one hundred lashes and death, which as you mostly observe are almost infinitely disproportionate.

It is said, and it is probably true that Brandt has returned to Niagara from the Miamis Towns, and that he has brought some Western Indians with him; if so, and their designs are for peace, we shall soon hear from them.

The Indians at Buffaloe Creek and those at Colonel Pickering's treaty asserted that Brandt went forth for the purpose of peace, and

intimations to that effect are also constantly given in this city, by a gentleman in the confidence of Lord Dorchester, And it is said that Sir John Johnson is to assemble the five nations at Buffaloe Creek immediately. The indications which shall result from this Council and Brandt's messages will probably give a decided complexion for the present to Indian Affairs.

If the British policy frowns upon Indian hostilities, and the Six Nations keep quiet, your operations and your intimations of the disposition of the United States, to be at peace with all the Indian tribes, will in the course of the season effect the object, and you will probably be suffered to establish your posts without opposition.

I inclose you duplicates of Colonel Pickerings letter to you of the 8th ulto and of the queries and answers of Captain Hendricks. The treaty closed the 15th ultimo, and the Indians returned satisfied, Colonel Pickering did not attempt to persuade any of them to join our army, as he found such a proposal would be very disagreeable. But, Big-tree came from Oneal's town with a proposition to assist our army to make peace. This was debated & refused.

The President of the United States still continues anxious that you should at the earliest moment commence your operations.

I enclose you the copy of a letter to Major General Butler of this date, which I presume will be the last he will receive for the present at Fort Pitt.

I am
Sir
With the greatest esteem
Your most obedient
Servant
J. Knox
Secy of War.

Major General St Clair.

Indorsed: No. 5.

[Q 58–1, p 132]

MERCHANTS TRADING AT DETROIT TO SIR JOHN JOHNSON.

Montreal 10 August 1791.

Sir,

As we understand you are about setting out for Quebec, with Deputies from the Indian Nations, now at war with the Americans, we take the favourable opportunity of requesting the favor of your

representing to His Excelly Lord Dorchester, the present very alarming situation of the Trade to the Southward of Detroit, wherein we are very largely interested; your personal knowledge Sir, of that Country, points out to you that the most considerable part of the Trade from Detroit is carried on to the Miamis Country & you will have been informed that the Traders suffered very considerable loss, last year in consequence of the burning of the Miamis Villages; for though they had fortunately time enough to carry off greatest part of their merchandise, yet the loss of their Houses & part of their goods has been severely felt.

We desire Sir to represent thro you to His Excelly Lord Dorchester that while the present unhappy disputes subsist between the Americans and Indians, The Trade must be totally put a stop to as neither the lives, nor property of the Traders can be safe, nor the present stock of merchandise imported from Britain this year & forwarded to Detroit to amount of upwards of Forty Thousand Pounds Curry converted into skins, to the manifest Injury, if not ruin of many Individuals.

The protection afforded by His Lordship on all occasions to the Indian trade, leaves us no room to doubt but that his Influence will be used in this Instance, to induce the Deputies of the Indian Tribes to listen to peace, persuaded as we are, that His Lordship's mediation, between the Parties, cannot but be attended with the most salutary effects, towards bringing about a lasting peace, where by a Boundary in the Indian Country may be fixed, and the trade carried on in its former channel with safety & advantage as heretofore.

We beg leave to observe that it is also of importance to the Trade that the Deputies, as representing the whole Body of their different nations return home satisfied

We have the honor to be
Sir, With much regard
Your most obedient Servants
(Signed) Forsyth Richardson & Co
in behalf of ourselves & correspondents at Detroit.
(Signed) Todd McGill & Co
in behalf of ourselves & correspondents at Detroit.

Sir John Johnson, Bart. D.

Indorsed: D.
In Lord Dorchester's to Lord Grenville No. 102.

[Q 52, p 272]

J. KNOX, SEC'Y OF WAR, TO MAJ. GEN. RICHARD BUTLER.

WAR DEPARTMENT 11th August 1791.

SIR,

I have received your letter of the fourth instant.

It is considered by the President of the United States as an unhappy Omen that all the troops for the Campaign had not descended at the time you wrote.

No retardment of the essential objects of the Campaign should be permitted under the idea of defensive protection of the Frontiers against a few straggling indians the Counties are sufficiently strong for that purpose.

If you should therefore be still at Fort Pitt it is the decided orders of the President of the United States that you repair to Head Quarters with all possible dispatch together with *all* the troops officers and stores for the Campaign.

It has been constantly intimated that Captain Phelon was the rear of the Troops for the Campaign and that no dependence would be placed on those who would arrive after him.

If there should be any deficiencies the Commanding General has the authority for supplying them.

Captain Newman will not be at Fort Pitt in less than fifteen days from the present time and Captain Buell is not less than one month as he only marches from New Brunswick this day. Colonel Gibson therefore cannot have any object at Fort Pitt and he must instantly repair to Head Quarters.

Any levies raised by Captain Falkner or any other person after the present moment will not be of any service and are therefore to be suspended.

I send a commission for Doctor Browne, Three blank commissions shall be prepared and forwarded by the next post.

The same sort of defensive protection is to be permitted for Marietta and Gallipolis in proportion to their numbers as to the other exposed places.

I am Sir &ca

(Signed) J. KNOX.

Major General Richard Butler.

Indorsed: No. 27.

[Q 58–1, p 187]

J. KNOX, SEC'Y OF WAR, TO MAJOR GENERAL ARTHUR ST. CLAIR.

WAR DEPARTMENT 11th August 1791.

SIR,

I have the honor to enclose a duplicate of my last letter to you of the 4th Instant, and a copy of mine to Major General Butler of the same date, and of the one to him of this date.

The President of the United States is exceedingly anxious that the troops upon the upper part of the Ohio should be assembled at Fort Washington, at as early a period as possible, so that you may commence and effect your operations in due season.

Nothing occurs as necessary or proper to be given to you as additional instructions. You are fully informed of the objects to be accomplished, the means furnished you for that purpose and authority to supply all deficiencies.

The President of the United States is convinced that you are deeply impressed with the natural importance of the force intrusted to your direction, and that you will use it in such seasonable and decisive manner, as shall at once reflect honor on yourself and army and the character of the United States.

I have received a letter from Governor Blount and General Servres of the 15th of July, which mentions that great difficulties had arisen, in raising the corps in the ceded territory that two hundred had marched under Major Rhea, and were then probably at Fort Washington—that the remainder will be forwarded immediately.

Governor Blount on the 2d of July concluded a treaty with the Cherokees—all is therefore quiet at the Southward, excepting a few rascally Indians, probably Creeks, have been committing some depredations on the Cumberland Settlements.

With great respect
I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedt Servant
(Signed) J. KNOX
Secy of War.

Major General Arthur St Clair.

Indorsed: No. 6.

[Q 58-1, p 138]

SPEECH OF LORD DORCHESTER TO THE INDIANS.

To the Chiefs and Warriors, Deputed by the Confederated Indian Nations of the Ottawas, Chippeways, Potowatamies, Hurons, Shawanese, Delawares, Twitwis, and the Six Nations.

The Speech of His Excellency Lord Dorchester in answer to their address of the preceding day.

BROTHERS,

When I heard your speech yesterday in behalf of your nations, I told you, that your words were of great moment, that I should weigh them, and give you my answer this day.

BROTHERS,

I am now ready.

BROTHERS,

You mentioned two speeches yesterday, which you said had passed at a meeting with Mr McKee at the foot of the Miamis Rapids, and which you supposed I had received.

BROTHERS,

These speeches have not yet reached me. I therefore called together some of your chiefs last evening, & found that I had had some information of their general purport before, by a letter from Mr McKee, in which he mentions, that the meeting had taken place which was called at my desire for the purpose of informing you that I should be glad to be instrumental in restoring peace between you and the United States if it should be in my power and that therefore I wished to know the terms, upon which you were disposed to make peace;

BROTHERS,

Although in general I know your minds on that subject, I wish to be accurate and therefore shall order your meaning to be taken down at a convenient time, that there may be no mistake in my representation of your wishes to the King your Father, to whom I shall give an exact account of your situation, on my arrival in England.

BROTHERS,

You tell me that when you were assembled at the foot of the Miamis Rapids to treat of peace, the people of the States came in arms into your country, intending to destroy you; that they heard you were strong & prepared, and then they turned off on a sudden

to the Wabash, ransacked your unprotected villages, massacred your old men, and carried off your women & children.

BROTHERS,

This was unfortunate, and I was very sorry to hear it. But I cannot tell, whether those people knew that you were then assembled to deliberate upon the means of peace.

BROTHERS,

You have told me, there are people who say, that the King your Father when he made peace with the United States, gave away your lands to them.

BROTHERS,

I cannot think, that the Government of the United States would hold that language; it must come from ill-informed individuals.

BROTHERS,

You well know, that no man can give what is not his own.

When the King made peace and gave independance to the United States, he made a treaty in which he marked out a line between them & him; this implies no more, than that Beyond this line he would not extend his interference—

BROTHERS,

The posts would have been given up long since, according to the Treaty, had the terms of it been complied with on the part of the states; but they were not: The King therefore remains in possession of the Posts, and will continue to hold them, untill all differences between him and the States shall be settled. But Brothers, this line which the King then marked out between him & the States, even supposing the Treaty had taken effect, could never have prejudiced your rights.

BROTHERS,

The Kings rights with respect to your territory were against the nations of Europe; these he resigned to the States. But the King never had any rights against you, but to such parts of the country as had been fairly ceded by yourselves with your own free consent, by public convention and sale. How then can it be said that he gave away your Lands?

So careful was the King of your Interests, so fully sensible of your rights, that he would not suffer even his own people to buy your own lands, without being sure of your free consent, and of ample justice being done to you. He therefore ordered his Superintendant

General Sir Willm Johnson, the father of your friend to be present at all treaties between you and his colonial government to see that you were fairly dealt with. Bargains with private individuals were forbid, and considered as void.

BROTHERS,

When the King your father discovered that notwithstanding his care there had been encroachments upon your lands by some of his people, that you were made uneasy, and that you had reason to complain, what did he do?

He called the leading people of those Colonies, between whom & you the differences had arisen, together, to meet your nations at Fort Stanwix to settle the dispute, and to fix a final boundary.

Now Brothers say is it possible that so good a father could ever mean to give away your lands, which he had no right to do, certainly he never did it, nor even meant it.

BROTHERS,

You remind me of your friendship and attachment to the King your father.

BROTHERS,

The King has not forgot your friendship he never forgets his friends.

BROTHERS,

You desire the King's protection—You desire his power and influence may be exerted to procure you peace and to secure your rights.

BROTHERS,

You expect my assistance and that you will be relieved in your distress.

BROTHERS,

When the Western people of the states had made an inroad into your country and burnt the Shawanese towns, of which I was informed not long after my last arrival in this country, I made known your father's sentiments with respect to you, and pointed out the line of conduct to be observed by me and all under my command towards you.

BROTHERS,

I cannot better explain myself now than by the words of the Letter I wrote at that time to Sir John Johnson which is nearly five years ago.

Letters to the same effect were by him sent to the officers of his Department & by me to the Commandants of the King's posts in the Upper Country.

The letter was to the following purport—

"If the Indians require assistance in their wars, you will take proper means to make them clearly understand that this country is a small part of the King's Dominions, that with us in Canada, no power is lodged to begin a war, nor ought we to have such a power, which might involve half the Globe, with all the Seas in blood and destruction. That at present the King is at peace with the whole world and desires so to remain, besides, according to our manners that peace cannot be broken, without injury & wrong received and redress refused; but tho' we have no power to begin a war, the Indians have our friendship and good wishes, and if we could be useful in procuring them a solid peace with the thirteen States, our best endeavours should be employed for that good purpose."

Brothers,

These sentiments have no doubt been often explained to you, and if they had not you must have perceived them from our conduct you now know them from my own mouth.

Brothers,

You see it is not in our power here to begin a war, if we are attacked then we must defend ourselves and may return hostilities.

Brothers,

You see, that tho we have no power to begin a war, you have our friendship and good wishes, & if we can be useful in procuring you a solid peace with the United States our best endeavours shall be employed for that good purpose.

Brothers,

You see that the King has not forgot you, that he is sollicitous for your comfort and that he has ordered his servants to take care of you, and to give you every mark of his bounty and friendship consistent with the general laws of the European nations.

Brothers,

In a few days I propose to sail for England, I am very glad I have had an opportunity to see you before my departure.

I have told you before that I shall fully represent your wishes to the King your Father.

Brothers,

I leave the command of this country in the hands of Major General Clarke who will take the same care of you, that I have done. For that is the will of the King our Master. His benevolence and friend-

ship for you are always the same and whoever is the instrument of the King's power in this Country, will always fulfil his intentions.

BROTHERS,

Here is Prince Edward son of our King who is just arrived, with a chosen band of his warriors, to protect this country I leave him second in command of all the King's warriors in Canada, and he will also take care of you.

BROTHERS,

It would give me great pleasure, when I am in England, to hear that peace is reestablished in your country upon a just and solid foundation and that you live in comfort and security with your families, sowing your fields and following your hunts, to our mutual advantage.

BROTHERS,

I recommend it to you not to lose sight of this desirable object.

BROTHERS,

Could I be instrumental in bringing this good work about, my pleasure would be still greater.

BROTHERS,

I wish health, wisdom, and happiness to you and all your nations, whom you will assure of the friendship of the King, your father, and of the affection of his servants and his people, in general as well as my own in particular.

Farewell & may the Supreme Being protect you.

Delivered at Quebec the fifteenth day of August one thousand seven hundred and ninety one

(Signed) DORCHESTER.

By His Excellencys Command D.

(Signed) HENRY MOTZ.

Indorsed: A.
In Lord Dorchester's to Lord Grenville No. 102.

[Q 52, p 260]

LIEUT. J. JEFFERS TO MAJ. GEN. RICHARD BUTLER.

FORT FRANKLIN 16th August 1791.

SIR,

Having found that Mr. Mead who was taken from this place, was taken only Twenty Miles, where it is supposed that he attack'd the Indians with a knife, he and one Captain Bullet was found dead together. We having taken a Delaware who I supposed had a hand

in it, I stopped to examine into the matter, which detained me till the 4th instant, finding nothing could be proved against him, I set him free, and started for the Corn Planter's Town at 11 o'clock A. M.

The Indians having stolen the Horses from about the Garrison, I was obliged to go by water, which was very disagreeable as the water was very low—all the Indians on the Alleghany followed me to a man.

I arrived at the Corn Planter's Town the 9th Inst. made known some part of my business to the Corn Planter.

The 10th the Corn Planter takes one horse and gives me another, turns out his warriors, and we proceed on to New Arrows Town, where I read your speech to them, which was received with great satisfaction—I then made a speech myself which they likewise received with pleasure. I left the Council House to themselves for a while—There was about Ten Chiefs and about one hundred Warriors present. I was soon sent for when the Corn Planter arose and said—

"I have now authority from these Chiefs to tell you the determina-"tion of the Six Nations."

"Governor St Clair the great warrior of the United States on the Western Waters, sent us a Speech by Cyasots at the time that Genl Harmar marched against the bad Indians he then told us that the bad Indians still continued to kill his women & children, and that he was going to whip them, that he was not going to hurt the Six Nations, that the Six Nations must set down, and keep their minds easy, and keep fast hold of the chain of friendship, this his first speech we have hearkened to, and shall till the day of our death—You seem to be afraid, you seem to think it will overset, and that we shall do something wrong, but that cannot be, keep your mind easy, immediately when our express arrives you shall hear all the news, we are well acquainted with each other, I beg of you to keep fast hold of "the chain of friendship as we shall also—If the bad "Indians are for peace, we will rise up and assist in making peace. "When you hear we are gone to the Council keep your mind easy, we "shall do all we can to bring about a peace, we feel for you and we "feel for the Indians that are against you, for fear of the bloody con-"sequences. We hope the Governor will not think hard, we took hold "of his first speech & we shall continue to obey his first orders, "which was to set down & keep fast hold of the chain of friendship."

I find that the speeches of the Six Nations are ruled by the Buffaloe Creek Indians, and they are ruled by the British for the Corn

Planter & several others has convinced me that they are willing to rise up & join our Army.

The Treaty at the Painted Post does not seem to give such general satisfaction to the Indians on the Alleghany river as I could wish. It seems by their story that they did not receive goods in proportion to other Indians, in consequence of their having received a considerable quantity at Philadelphia last winter—one-half of which was plundered from them by the Militia when assending the Alleghany river.

The Corn Planter says—"The Chief of the goods was given to "the Queogas, Onondangoes & Onidas, as the Senecas was going to "receive money from Phelps for their Lands. I do not blame the "great men for this, I blame Phelps intirely for telling that I had "a great quantity of goods for the Indians on the Alleghany Waters "—true, I had goods, and meant to have divided them, but the "Militia stole a great part of them, and took all my canoes when "on my way up the river—they likewise stole the Deed for my "Lands at the Muskingum, and several papers of great value."

"For 217 Indians we received only 17 dollars from Phelps—I am "told that Phelps declared in public that he paid me a large sum of "money in Philadelphia last winter, and that I had not divided it, I "declare that Phelps is a Liar, for I never received one copper from "him."

Such stories make the Corn Planter very unpopular, and is a great damage to the United States, as he is an undoubted friend.

What Brandts business was to the west, I cannot find out, there is a large number of the Western Chiefs come with him and are gone with him to Montreal, to hold a Council with the British, where I understand the Onidas are invited—whether those Western Chiefs are for peace or war I cannot find out, the Corn Planter thinks they are for peace—when they return to Buffaloe Creek, the Corn Planter intends to wait on them—as soon as he returns, he says he will let me know of everything—he has sent an express to try to find out what he can, and when he returns he will let me know what news; what I can find out you shall know soon after.

I recommended it very strongly to the Indians to hearken to the Governor's last speech, but it seems it has been determined at Buffaloe Creek not to join our army—yet I think that some will come, for the Corn Planter told me that I might look out for him.

The Corn Planter tells me that there is no reinforcement come to Niagara, and that there has been no late repairs at the Fort,

only where the Lightening struck it, they have built it up as it was before.

Stiff Knee tells me that Butler the British Indian Agent, told the bad Indians that he wished they would make peace; but if they were determined for war & were like to be beat, that he had 1000 Militia that he was ready to help them with.

I am informed that 1,600 chosen Warriors were assembled, and ready for war, 800 at Detroit, and 800 at the Miami Towns, that in consequence of a Message from Fort Washington (or some other place, which I cannot get Interpreted) they had dispersed and that they had to assemble next moon.

I should have proceeded on to Buffaloe Creek, but I found the Western Chiefs were gone to Montreal, and my time was so short that I would not go any farther & give you an answer by the time you set.

I beg leave to say, that it is only flinging away public Money to send Commissioners or any other person to speak to the Indians at Buffaloe Creek while the English are in possession of Niagara. The Indians in former Councils have told me that the Americans pretend to own Niagara, I tell them true enough. Well say they, why dont you go and take it? I tell them that perhaps they will give it up by and by—they say no, they never will give it up and you are afraid to go and take it—if you were men you would go and take it—and then the black Rascals will walk about with all the pomposity in the world. I had rather wade up to my ancles in blood than be so insulted.

You may depend on the friendship of the Corn Planter's people, who are about three hundred in number, but the Buffaloe Creek Indians are to be doubted.

I consider it absolutely necessary for this garrison to be re-inforced with Ten Men. I have 440 feet exterior sides to defend with 30 men, whereas according to the principles of defence 100 is little enough.

I am sorry to see in your last letter to Mr. Bond, that you propose relieving him, for the regularity and dignity with which he conducted himself in my absence, convinces me that should we be engaged, and I fall, he is every way calculated to command.

I have this day sent off Stiff Knee after two Indians who belong to Buffaloe Creek, that have stolen two Horses from the Alleghany Country—he is to bring the Horses & Indians if possible, and I am

determined to give the Indians a severe flogging, for I have tried & found that a very good medicine for them.

Before you go down the river, I wish you would give me authority to Inlist these six months men for three years for fear I shall be left again without men.

I have to request that you will order the Contractors to forward on a large supply of meat for the use of this Garrison without loss of time, as we have only about a 100wt on hand—the corporal & the three Indians, with an addition of ten soldiers, will be a proper escort for a drove of cattle, and as the bad Indians are about a less number will not do.

I would not wish you to give these Indians anything, as I have agreed to pay them, and if you give them ever so much I shall yet have to pay them.

God bless & prosper your plans, and protect your person through the Campaign.

I have the honor to be
Dear General
with sentiments of the
highest esteem
Your most obedient &
very humble Servant
(Signed) J. Jeffers
Lieut 1st U. S. Regt Commanding.

The Honble Major General
Richard Butler.

Endorsed: No. 37.

[Q 58–1, p 204]

LORD DORCHESTER TO LORD GRENVILLE.

[No. 102]

Quebec 17th August 1791.

My Lord,

I inclose a copy of my answer to an address of Deputies of the confederated Western Nations, who arrived here a few days ago, together with a copy of their declaration of the terms upon which they are disposed to make peace with the United States.

Copies of a minute of a private conference with some of the chiefs, of a letter from some of the merchants at Montreal to Sir

John Johnson on the present condition of the Indian Trade, south of Detroit, and of a letter from Detroit on Indian Affairs, are likewise inclosed.

I am with much respect & esteem
Your Lordship's
Most obedient and
Most humble servant

DORCHESTER.

The Right Hon Lord Grenville.

Endorsed: Quebec 17th August 1791.
Lord Dorchester No. 102. (Five Enclosures.)

[Q 52, p 259]

CONFERENCE WITH INDIANS AT QUEBEC RELATIVE TO WESTERN INDIANS.

At a meeting by desire of His Excellency Lord Dorchester at Quebec the 17th day of August 1791.

Present

Major General Clarke Lieut Governor of the Province of Quebec

Sir John Johnson Bart. Superintendant General and Inspector General of Indian Affairs. and

Joseph Brant with twelve chiefs & Warriors of the Ottawas, Huron, Delaware, Mohawk, Cayahugas, Tuscaroras, and Seneca Nations, deputies of the confederated Western Indians.

Major General Clarke informed the Deputies that they had been called together at the desire of His Excellency Lord Dorchester, that they might fully explain the terms upon which their constituents, the confederated Western Nations were disposed to make peace with the United States.

Joseph Brant in behalf of the Deputies declared that their nations were disposed to make peace with the United States upon the basis of the following boundary being established and inviolably observed between them, that is to say, a line running up from the confluence of the Cherokee River, with the Ohio to the mouth of the Muskingum thence to the portage, which crosses to Cayahaga, from thence in a direct line across the country to Venango, where it joins the line agreed upon in 1768 from thence along the said line till it strikes the Line of purchase made by Pensylvania in the year 1784.

The line was marked upon the map and examined by all the deputies present, who declared that the several nations, their constituents had determined to abide by that line, and that this was their final resolution.

(Signed) ALURED CLARKE, Major Genl.
JOHN JOHNSON
JOSEPH BRANT.

Endorsed: B.
In Lord Dorchester's to Mr. Grenville No. 102.

At a meeting with the Indian Deputies at the Castle of St Lewis on Sunday Evening the 14th August 1791.
Present
The Right Honble Guy Lord Dorchester
Lieutenant Governor Clarke
Sir John Johnson Bart S. I. G. & I .G. of Indian Affairs
Henry Motz Esqr.
Joseph Chew S. I. A.
Captain Brant and
Six Chiefs of different Nations.

When Captain Brant in behalf of the Confederacy addressed His Lordship as follows.

FATHER,

We wish now to mention some particular matters concerning the situation of our Indian Confederacy which we believed it not proper to say at the public meeting held this day.

The hostile intentions of the Americans and their attempt to get possession of our country, obliges us to request assistance from our fathers the English, to whom we have always been true and faithful friends, and request that a Fort may be built at the Miamis Rapids for the protection of that Country, Detroit, and the Country about it, to which it is the Key.

FATHER,

We also pray that provisions may be ordered for the Great Council we are to have at the Miamis Rapids, early in September to consider on our present situation, and how it may be proper for us to act, where there will be at least 2,000 men and probably many more who must remain there some time to see if the Americans are

for Peace or mean to get possession of the Country, as we mentioned at the public meeting this day that we had pointed out a Boundary Line which we mean to abide by, if that does not satisfy them it will be a convincing proof nothing less than the possession of our whole country will, which we will not be able to defend unless assisted.

FATHER,

In the late war when the Americans entered into a Rebellion against the King and the British Government you spoke openly to us and called for our assistance, which we gave to the utmost of our power.

We hope in our present situation you will not think hard of us for speaking freely and openly with you, and asking for yours, it is a grievous thing to us that the Americans always insist that our Country was given to them by the King, and making that a pretence for taking possession of it, and fixing such lines as they think proper. We pray you father in our alarming situation to let us know how this is; also that you will freely tell us in case of another attack which we have great reason to expect shortly, how far we can be assisted that we may know what to depend upon.

MY LORD,

We now inform you of a matter that principally concerns the Five Nations many of whom wished to remove from the encroachments of the Americans & settle on the Grand River, at that time it was thought best that they should remain where they were, the Americans are now daily gaining them over to their Interest and lately drew off several families of the Tuscaroras, this is very prejudicial to the Indians, as it divides and separates them, and will most assuredly be very detrimental to the British Interest, which will soon appear. We therefore think none should be discouraged who incline to come & settle on that River.

MY LORD,

We have expected that a new deed should be given to us for the Lands on the Grand river and have been informed that your Lordship is so good as to desire us to point out in what manner we wish to have the Deed drawn. It is our Request it may be agreeable to General Haldimand's first promise, and to have such a patent as the King gives for other lands with a Clause that it is never to be sold, but to remain the sole & intire property of the Indians forever.

My Lord,

We have omited a matter that nearly concerns some of our Brethren the Oughquagas who memorialed Your Lordship some time ago. Those faithful people always true to the King and the English lost their Lands & Farms & never have had the smallest Recompence; We most sincerely feel for them and humbly pray your Lordship if possible to grant them some relief by directing our Superintendant General to give it to them from His Majesty's Indian Store, or in any way that your Lordship may see fit, it being very hard for them to lose all they had for their attachment to the British Cause. They are still true to the King and are settled on the Grand River.

D.

Endorsed: C.
In Lord Dorchester's to Lord Grenville No. 102.

[Q 52, p 267]

J. KNOX, SEC'Y OF WAR, TO MAJ. GEN. RICHARD BUTLER.

War Department 18th August 1791.

Sir,

I have received your letter of the eleventh instant and which has been submitted to the President of the United States I enclose a duplicate of mine to you of the same date.

You will receive herewith the Commissions for Major Clarke's Battalion according to the list you sent of which the enclosed is a copy and also the Blank Commisions for the additional company which it is presumed has gone down the Ohio with you.

As you will probably receive this at Head Quarters, I shall not have anything to add to my former communications.

The information you transmitted in your last of the harmony among the Troops is highly pleasing and it is to be hoped will pervade all the Army. I most sincerely hope that the Campaign will be conducted with the highest vigor and success, so as to cover all concerned from the General down to the private with glory and satisfaction.

I have the honor, &c

(Signed) J. Knox

Major General Butler. Secy of War.

Endorsed: No. 28.

[Q 58–1, p 189]

J. KNOX, SEC'Y OF WAR, TO MAJOR GENERAL ARTHUR ST. CLAIR.

SIR, WAR DEPARTMENT 18th August 1791.

I have the honor to enclose a duplicate of mine to you of the 11th instant, and also a duplicate of mine to Major General Butler of that date and of this day.

I presume Captain Newman will not arrive at Fort Pitt until the 25th instant, and Captain Buel about the 10th of Sept. No other troops are on their march, excepting a party of about thirty from New Hampshire, who have not yet arrived at Brunswick. Buel's detachment consists of about ninety two regulars.

All the stores which have been written for have been forwarded, either from Fort Pitt or this place, excepting the 5½ inch shells, which cannot be obtained in season for the campaign. As the most expeditious mode I have sent for some to Westpoint and expect them here hourly. When they arrive they shall be forwarded. Some reports have been recently raised in this city, as to the powder furnished Mr Hodgdon by Mr Joseph Miller was not of good quality, especially that made by his foreman Jacob Keyser. I have had some powder of Jacob Keyser's make proved, by taking one inch of each sort, to wit, Cannon, Musquet and Rifle, and projecting a 24lb Ball out of a 5½ inch mortar, elevated at 45° placing the powder in the chamber of the mortar loose and putting a piece of paper over the mouth of the chamber. The powder to be well dried in the sun. This is the surest possible mode of proving powder, and the powder so proved had been remanufactured from damaged public powder, and was found upon trial to be equal to the best proof powder It is considered that if one ounce will under the above circumstances project a 24lb ball 30 yards that it is sufficiently strong, most of the powder which was tried as above projected the ball at an average 40 yards.

Mr. Miller has made an affirmation that the powder furnished the public was made of refined salt petre, and was at least equal, if not superior to that which has been proved here.

I mention this circumstance to you, lest the report may have reached you, by some other channel. You will of course direct the powder to be proved in the manner stated, by Major Ferguson. I have no doubt that you will find it fully proof.

You will readily perceive that this is a sort of suspicion, which must be kept carefully from the troops, for unless they rely with confidence on the goodness of their powder, no dependence can be placed on their exertions.

The report here I am pretty confident originated in a jealousy of some dealers in the same article.

I sincerely hope that you will have received your whole force, and have commenced your operations by the time you receive this letter, which I consider as the last you will receive at Fort Washington.

I cannot easily express to you the anxiety of the President of the United States, that the Campaign should be entirely successful and issue in a just and honorable peace with all the tribes. He is persuaded that you will brace to exertion every nerve under your command, and that you will establish a sure mode of communication with this office, while you are on the expedition.

With great respect.

I have the honor to be

Sir Your most obedient

hum Servant

(Signed) J. KNOX

Major General Arthur St. Clair. Secy of War.

Endorsed: No. 7.

[Q 58–1, p 140]

J. KNOX, SEC'Y OF WAR, TO MAJ. GEN. RICHARD BUTLER.

SIR, WAR DEPARTMENT August 25th 1791.

I have received your letter of the 18th inst, which has been submitted to the President of the United States.

I am commanded by him to inform you that he is by no means satisfied with the long detention of the troops on the upper part of the Ohio which he considers as unnecessary and improper.

And that it is his opinion unless the highest exertions be made by all parts of the Army to repair the loss of the season that the expences which have been made for the campaign will be altogether lost and that the measures from which so much has been expected will issue in disgrace.

I have &ca

(Signed) J. KNOX.

Major General Butler.

Endorsed: No. 29.

[Q 58–1, p 190]

LT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE TO HENRY DUNDAS.

Observations on the Posts on the Lake.

I have heretofore, in a memoir to Lord Grenville, assimilated them to what Calais formerly was to Great Britain. In time peace the Emporium of our staple Commerce, in time of war, outlets into the Enemy's Country. Offensive operations; or if we were obliged to a dangerous defensive (always injurious to a Commercial nation), such posts, contracted around them the circle of war, and gave due preparation of the further attempts of an Invader. In regard to their Military utility, they are to be considered relatively to the *Indians* & the *Americans*. The *Indian* is the formidable Enemy in our present juncture of affairs—because, he has nothing to lose & is full of Martial Science & Spirit adapted to the nature of the Country—& because from being as he is at present our friend, his enmity would proportionately be lasting, as it must arise from his *absolute belief* of our weakness.

It has been truly observed that the giving up of the Posts will have this tendency. *Detroit* is somewhat sacred in the estimation of the Indians, & in a meeting with the Americans, they term it the *ancient Council Fires* of their *Fathers*.

All people who know the Indians, concur that there is no such thing as a neutrality in their Ideas; They must have war *somewhere*, & their present union, will probably prevent them from quarrelling amongst them selves, & it is not to be doubted, but that Rivalry in commerce, will animate the Americans to whet them on to attack the British Subjects.

In regard to the Americans, The first step they will take, if the forts be given up to them, will be to establish a great depot of Arms & Commercial Goods at this Post, & they will have the means, & their Policy will grasp at it, of filling the Lakes with Commercial Vessels to the immediate destruction of all our fur trade to the *South* of Lake Erie.

The objects of the American States appear to be Twofold, The Southern to admit a commercial Intercourse with Great Britain. The Northern to preserve to itself the carrying Trade.

The Southern are governed by men who *hate* Great Britain, nor would they acquiesce in any measure that might appear to neglect their United Interests with the Northern States, had they not a great object in view & this object, is to unite their partial States

(the Southern ones) in every possible Link, with the states now forming beyond the Apalachian Mountains & when they shall be united, They then will conceive themselves to be able to crush with the utmost facility, that power alone, which disconnects their several Governments, & which if preserved separate from them, must ultimately reduce to the proper size & state which nature intended them. This aggregation of Republicks, I mean the British Colonies of Canada. The Commercial Idea of the Southern States, is that the bulky commodities which the Inhabitants on the Mississippi & on the Banks of those Rivers which flow into it shall raise, will pass down the Mississippi into the Ocean; but, that such manufactured European Commodities as may be bartered for them shall pass up the Delaware & Chesapeake & from thence be transported over the Apalachian Mountains to the Streams which communicate with the Ohio & Mississippi—such is the Reasoning of the Leaders of the Southern States.

On the part of Great Britain, It is reasonable to hope, & I trust will be experienced, that she can transport her Manufactures to Detroit & its Vicinity & afford them at a cheaper rate than the American Merchant can at Baltimore—On the other hand if Detroit be surrendered the most favorable commercial Intercourse will be formed on British Goods paying at that Post similar duties to what are paid at the Sea Coasts & *Guarda Costas* will be stationed in the Michigan &c to prevent That Commercial Intercourse which the Inhabitants on the Mississippi above its confluence with the Ohio are naturally desirous of enjoying.

It is to be observed that the principal Body of People of Kentuckee are the Friends of Great Britain. They and the other Inhabitants in the lower parts of the Country should the Spanish government have given them the free use of the Mississippi. They must still ask the leave of the Indians before they can enjoy it & must be at the mercy of that capricious people. They may raise several commercial articles of great consequence which will be at the portage to Lake Erie, where they may be exchanged for British Manufactures. It is therefore in this light of future Commercial policy that the delivery of the Posts to the Americans is to be seriously considered.

In regard to power; *Detroit* delivers the navigation of Lake Erie, Huron & Superior into the hands of the Americans by the natural effect of the possession of its commerce. Oswego & Carleton Island will give them Lake Ontario & the naval Force on these Lakes will

leave our Settlements on the opposite shores subject in case of War to serious annoyance.

J. G. SIMCOE.

Aug 26 1791.

To the Rt. Hon. H. Dundas.

Endorsed: August 26th 1791.
Lt. Govr. Simcoe, Observations on the Posts on the Lakes. Copy to the Duke of Richmond 24 Octr. 1791

[Q 278, p 314]

J. KNOX, SEC'Y OF WAR, TO MAJ. GEN. RICHARD BUTLER.

WAR DEPARTMENT 1 September 1791.

SIR,

I have received your favor of the twenty-fifth ultimo, and I now enclose you a duplicate of mine of the same date.

As Captain Newman marched from Bedford on the twentieth of August it is a little surprising that he had not arrived at Fort Pitt the time your letter was written but it is presumed he would arrive before your departure from that place.

The several objects of your letter will be attended to, and the name of your nephew will be placed on the list, and submitted to the President of the United Sates with the other candidates.

It is devoutly to be hoped, that you will have a speedy passage down the Ohio, so that the remaining part of the season may be embraced for effective operations.

I have the honor to be

Sir &c.

(Signed) J. KNOX
Secretary of War.

Major General Richard Butler.

Endorsed: No. 30.

[Q 58–1, p 191]

MAJOR JOHN STAGG, JR., TO MAJ. GEN. RICHARD BUTLER

SIR, WAR DEPARTMENT September 9th 1791.

In the absence of the Secretary of war I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 30th of August and I now transmit you a duplicate of his letter dated the 1st instant.

I have the honor to be Sir

(Signed) JOHN STAGG, JNR.,
Chf Clk.

Major General Richard Butler.

Endorsed: No. 33.

[Q 58-1, p 194]

COMMISSION TO SIR JOHN JOHNSON.

GEORGE R.

[Seal] George the Third, by the Grace of God, King of Great Britain, France and Ireland, Defender of the Faith &c.

To our Trusty and well beloved Sir John Johnson Bart. Greeting. We reposing especial trust and confidence in your Loyalty, Fidelity and Ability do, by these presents, constitute and appoint you to be Superintendant General and Inspector General of our Faithful Subjects and Allies the Six United Nations of Indians and their Confederates, and of their affairs, and also of our faithfull Allies the Indians inhabiting our Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada in America, and the frontiers of our said provinces and of their affairs; and you are to observe and follow such orders and directions as you shall receive from our Commander in Chief of Our Forces in our said Provinces of Upper Canada and Lower Canada, or in case of his absence, from the officer who may be left in the command of the said Forces for the time being. Given at our Court at St James's the Sixteenth day of September 1791. In the Sixty first year of our Reign. By His Majesty's Command

HENRY DUNDAS.

Sir John Johnson, Bart.
Superintendant General & Inspector General
of Indian affairs in Quebec &c.

Endorsed: Copy
Sir John Johnson, Bart, Superintendant General & Inspector General of Indian Affairs in Quebec, &c.

In Lt. Govr. Simcoe's No. 5, of 10th March 1792,

[Q 278, p 95] (No. 2.)

DECLARATION OF JOHN WADE, DESERTER FROM THE AMERICAN ARMY.

Copy.

John Wade from Clones in Ireland, says he came to the Provinces of America, before the Rebellion, that he took refuge under the King's protection during war, and has been in Nova Scotia ever since, till last Fall when he went to the States, in order to recover some property, which he was led to believe he might get, having a power of attorney for that purpose, and promise of assistance.

That from the measures he took in endeavouring to recover the same, and private animosities, together with having refused to take their Oath of Allegiance, he was reputed to be a disaffected person, and inimical to the State; He was therefore put into Irons, and forwarded to the Ohio, where he was informed he should have his liberty on serving with the expedition then marching against the Indians, which he accepted in hopes of attaining his liberty when opportunity offered.

That, on the 4th of October last, he with 4 others, deserted the American Army, from the plains of the Great Miamis 25 Miles from Fort Washington; Before which the army had been just mustered, and consisted of two thousand three hundred men, of which about 1,500 were Continental troops, and the rest levies for six months. Their Artillery consisted of 13 pieces of Cannon, sixes and threes, and 2 Howitz which were taken with Lord Cornwallis—That he believes there were about 460 oxen with the army, and about 200 Pack Horses with flour, that he understands other supplies, were to follow —The Ordnance Stores were carried on Pack Horses.

That they built a Block House on the Great Miami, 100 feet Square, and left 12 pieces of Iron Ordnance therein; He understands that they intended to build another at Mad River, one between that and the Miamis, and one at the Miami Towns also to come within 60 miles of Detroit, and there erect a garrison.

He understands that succours are expected from Kentucky; that the first expedition, however, of the Militia from thence, had revolted at Lexington, because on joining the army they were to be subject to Martial Law; they required also high pay, and permission to plunder without distinction, which was refused. That upon this revolt Governor St Clair ordered every tenth man of them to be drafted. That the Road which the army made last Fall is 2 Rods wide & very passable.

That they are now enlisting in the States for 7 years, giving 30 dollars Bounty. That he himself was in the 1st Continental Regiment, and was to receive 2 dollars p month clear of every thing.

That there are one hundred mounted Dragoons with the army.

That having served as a servant to Captain Beaty, he has often heard General Butler, Major Hamtramuck and his master converse together; that he heard the General say the posts should have been given up last year and that Congress were determined to have them, if they cost every man in America. That to protect him and his companions from the Indians, he carryed a flag for peace, till they were at length taken by an indian Chief, who permitted him, his liberty. That he has 3 brothers & 2 sisters in Nova Scotia, and prays to be permitted and assisted in returning to that Province—when he received a Location as a Loyalist.

Detroit 27th October 1791.

(Signed) JOHN SMITH
Major 5th Regt.

Endorsed:
In General Clarke's to Mr. Dundas No. 13, of 2d Decr 1791.

[Q 58–1, p 51]

SIMON GIRTY TO COL. A. MC KEE.

MIAMIS DELAWARE TOWN October 28th 1791.

SIR,

This is to let you know that 1,040 Indians are this day going from here, to meet General Butler and his army, with an Intention to attack him on his march to this place; I am informed that he is likewise to leave his last Post on his way here this same day, and that he has 2,200 men which account is confirmed by the report of Deserters and Prisoners that are daily brought in who also say that he is to bring with him five pieces of cannon and two Cohorns for the Post he intends there. He has 320 Kentucky Militia with him and 100 Light Horse. The Militia demanded of Governor St Clair five shillings per day, which he refused to allow them, this is the reason so few of them have turned out, having also insisted upon being commanded by their own officers only. The deserters say that bad usage & scarcity of provisions obliged them daily to quit the Army. The Indians were never in greater Heart to meet their Enemy, nor more

sure of success, they are determined to drive them to the Ohio, and starve their little Posts by taking all their Horses and Cattle.

Their principal officers are St Clair, Butler, Gibson and Duncan all of whom you know as well as I. This is all I have to let you know till they return

And am &c

(Signed) SIMON GIRTY.

Colonel Alexander McKee.

Endorsed:
In General Clarke's to Mr. Dundas, of 2d Decr 1791.

[Q 58-1, p 49)

COL. A. MC KEE TO SIR JOHN JOHNSON.

FOOT OF MIAMIS RAPIDS November 1st 1791.

SIR,

I arrived at this place some time ago in order to attend the Council proposed to be held by the Western Indians, on the return of their Deputies, and which is now laid aside by the near approach of a Force to the Miamis Towns, the different nations having moved from hence that way, their deputies did not arrive till some days after their departure but as several of them followed no doubt His Lordship's answer to them has been communicated before this time to such as are collected together.

Many vague & uncertain accounts having been brought here by Indians I at length judged it expedient to dispatch an Interpreter that way as well to observe the proceedings of the Indians as to gain Intelligence of the movements of both parties.

In the evening yesterday received from him a letter a copy of which I enclose, as it contains an account of the present situation of affairs between the American army & the Western Indians by which it appears probable that a few days will determine the affairs of one or the other for this season. And whatever may be the result we shall find the Indians very importunate to their Father for supplies—particularly the article of Provisions, which is already scarce amongst them, owing to their being continually collected together to watch their villages.

The Wabash Indians who were those Nations that suffered during the course of the summer, having several villages surprised and a

number of women & children carried away Prisoners, are now gone we understand to treat with the Americans, and it is reported that some of them are now in the American Army; it is certain that none of them have joined the Indians who make the opposition.

Intending to wait here some days longer for the event of those matters, which shall be transmitted to you without delay, I am in the meantime with the greatest respect & sincerity

Sir Your faithful and
very obedient servant
(Signed) A. McKee.

Sir John Johnson, Bart.

Endorsed:
In General Clarke's to Mr. Dundas No. 13, of 2d Decr. 1791.

[Q 58–1, p 47]

WM. DARKE TO MRS. SARAH DARKE.

Camp 83 Miles from Fort Washington 1st Nov. 1791.

My Dear,

After a fatiguing passage down the Ohio we arrived safe at Fort Washington the 29th of August, and have been since that time crawling through the Indian Country, for an excuse for our Idleness if it might be called so, we have built two sorts of Forts. though in fact we have been very busy doing nothing. Our commander is so exceedingly afflicted with the Gout that all the men that can possibly get in reach of him are scarcely enough to help him on and off his horse and indeed, now a Litter is made to carry him like a corps between two horses.

In this Rapid manner we move to catch the Indians 83 miles in better than two months I expect we shall soon return as most of the Levies's times will be out this month and many other Reasons the food being all kill'd with the Frost long since, in this cold country & the Horses dying every day, I think bad management in every department, 150 militia deserted yesterday, and 300 Regulars sent with six days provision after them though I believe not with any expectation to bring them back but to prevent them from getting any provision. Thus we are deprived one fourth of the army in the heart of the Savage dominions, I in short expect by the last of this month we shall begin our march back which if we

perform as slowly as we seem to advance will take us till March to see Fort Washington again, but I imagine it will not be the case when the men's times are out they will be free, and anxious to return and instead of a mile & a quarter a day will march 25 and that we shall be at Fort Washington in one week from the extent of our scandalous expedition.

The Indians have done very little mischief except steal Horses which they have not done much of since about the 24th of September they or the white people stole near a hundred in a few days, the grey Horse bought of Entler was stolen the 27th at night I think by white Indians—Joseph had sent him to Lieut. McMath to ride about 24 miles back to Fort Washington and he was tied with other horses within 30 yards of the fort & fed by corn blades the strap he was tied with was cut & he and 6 more valuable horses were taken off they were followed next day about 12 miles into the Indian Country and seemed to have been rode very fast, and two Pack Horses they had stole left on the way tied with Buffelow straps with the woolen tied about their necks in running nooses that they might pull back and hang themselves, but they were so tied they had not spirit enough till they were found, this it appears to me was done to make it appear it was certainly Indians, something it was all the Kentucky Militia think it was Indians and say they have often plaid such tricks and the other two horses I still have though very poor and nothing to feed them but what they pick in the woods at times which is but Little as the food is all kill'd with the frost and are obliged to keep them tied up every night.

Joseph is somewhere on picket guard with about fifty four men but will be in this evening is not very well but I dare say will in a few days as it is nothing but a cold that all the Captains in the Battalion have, is the reason he was sent on guard as he came off the night before last.

I expect by the third of December we shall turn our faces towards home and in two weeks get to Kentuck where perhaps we can get horses to proceed home as I am convinced if those we have live til then they will be too poor to undertake such a journey if we have good luck by the middle of January we shall get home—I have not heard one word from home since I left it I have been much concerned about the feeding the men at the falls but am afraid there is not many of them I expect we shall march to morrow early on towards the Indian Towns where we I believe shall not

find an Indian, except what few friend Indians may be with us— hope you & the family are well & may continue so and am

Your loving husband

(Signed) Wm. Darke.

Mrs. Sarah Darke.

[Q 58–1, p 216]

LETTER FROM WM. DARKE.

Camp 83 Miles from Fort Washington 1st Novr. 1791.

Dear Sir,

By Rawleigh Morgan I embrace this opportunity to inform you of our Glorious Campaign we have been better than two months marching rapidly into the Indian Country and have got 83 miles already and are going on Rapidly at the rate of one mile or a little better a day, and are going on towards the Indian Towns I hope to see you soon and as you will see Lieut Morgan so he can give you any information you want and there are assembled about me about a Dozen officers disputing about what they are not judges of. I shall I hope see you soon when I can recount over the exploits we have done and how bravely our Generals led us to victory and how we lifted them out of bed with the gout.

Endorsed: No. 41.

[Q 58–1, p 220]

WM. DARKE TO COL. JOHN MOROW.

Camp 83 Miles from Fort Washington

Dear Colonel,

I embrace the opportunity by Lieut Rawleigh Morgan to let you see I am not yet dead, though not well pleased with the expedition we have undertaken, I have scarce time to write but Mr Morgan can give you a good account of the Rapidness of our movements, I dont expect we shall go on much farther as chief of the Levies time will be out in a few weeks, and the Militia are discharging themselves by fiftys, our General is all but helpless with the Gout and stil

takes all the command on himself, as you will certainly see Morgan he will be able to give you an account how the Virginia Battalion was favored with their shear of fatigue and how rapidly we go on—I confess I know not what has impeded our march or whether we were to do anything or not but if we were to go to the Indian Towns, I know not why we did not except our Grate and Good Governor could not bare the thoughts of anybodeys going to the Towns before he was able to go at their Head, my opinion is we ought to have been there two months ago or near it and the men as they arrived at Fort Washington could have assorted out the provisions. Hower I could Risque my reputation life and salvation if I did not with the same army ariving at Pitsburg and other places at the same time, be if I had the command of them six weeks forwarder than we are, with the Expedition I think 2 months and more.

Dwer the Contractor will be blamed for our slow movements, But will defend himself with saying why did not you go on while my horses could live on the green herbage, I kept my horses waiting for asscorts untill they were merely starved to death waiting your movements this he can say with some propriety. I expect we have lost, stole by the Indians dead and useless upwards of 300 horses, one of mine is gone stole I can scarce se what I write and must conclude as I hope to have the plesure of seing you and your family in Shepherds' town in a few weeks after you can receive this, in the mean time wish you helth and every other blessing this world can afford & am

Deal Coll

Your obedient hum. Servt.

(Signed) Wm. Darke.

1 November 1791.

Colo. John Morow.

P. S. The Indians have done no little damage have killed five men and I believe taken two prisoners one of the name of major one Fouler Chandler and Mr Cue Chandler the did not scalp as he got in to camp before he died.

Endorsed: No. 42.

[Q 58–1, p 221]

LT. GOV. ALURED CLARKE TO HENRY DUNDAS.

[No. 13.] QUEBEC 2nd December 1791.

SIR,

The papers of which the inclosed are copies contain Information just received from the Upper Country relative to the situation of the Americans & Indians, by which it appears probable that ere this, there has been an action between them.

I have the honor to be
with great respect, Sir
Your most obedient
and most faithful
humble Servant
ALURED CLARKE.

The Right Honble Henry Dundas.

[Q 58-1, p 45]

Schedule of Papers transmitted to the Right Honble Henry Dundas in letter No 13 of the 2nd December 1791.

No 1. Letter from Alexander McKee Esqr Deputy agent of Indian affairs dated foot of the Miamis Rapids Novemr 1st 1791 to Sir John Johnson inclosing—[Published on page 330]

2. Letter from Simon Girty, Interpreter, to Alexander McKee Esqr dated Miamis Delaware Town 28th October 1791. [Published on page 329]

3. Declaration of John Wade, Deserter from the American army. [Published on page 328]

4. Declaration of John O'Neil and Maurice Gears deserters from the American Army.

Endorsed: Quebec 2d Decemr. 1791.
Lt. Gov. Clarke No. 13. R. 11 Feb. Four inclosures.

[Q 58-1, p 46]

COL. A. MC KEE TO SIR JOHN JOHNSON.

SIR, DETROIT 5th December 1791.

I did myself the honor of writing to you on the 11th of last month from the foot of the Miamis Rapids whither I had gone again in consequence of the engagements entered into at the Council in June last—that letter was forwarded by the commanding officer Major

Smith by an express to Niagara on the 14th of November and conveyed to you my first intelligence of a decisive engagement having taken place between the Indians and the American army on the 4th of November in which the latter lost all their artillery Baggage, ammunition &c &c &c and 1200 men killed.

I remained at the foot of the Rapids, until I received a more certain and authentic account thereof, and so far was my first information from being exaggerated, that in reality it falls short of the American loss, which now appears from the testimony of many *Prisoners who have been delivered up to me, to exceed 1,500.

Several large Parcels of Letters and Papers have been brought in and I have the honor of inclosing copies of such as appear official and in any wise Interesting for you or the government to be informed of.

The loss of the Indians is indeed very trifling and scarcely credible, the number of killed being only 20 or 21, and of wounded 40.

The bearer Du Quania, was in the engagement and behaved with great gallantry, he will be able to give you every account thereof you may wish to know.

I find this party consisting of 10 men with Du Quania at their head, were the only Six Nation Indians, who came to the assistance of their friends, and are now sent with messages to the different tribes in Lower Canada to meet at the foot of the Miamis Rapids early in the Spring.

The astonishing success of a few Indians, not more than 1040, who have opposed and destroyed, the whole American force will most probably cause a more numerous collection of Indians at that time than was ever before known in this part of the Country.

This circumstance will naturally lead you to consider the necessity of sending forward at as early a period as possible, all the supplies for the year as well as the extraordinaries, which will become indispensibly necessary for so numerous a Body of Indians, and more particularly as the Deputies who were at Quebec have expressed, that Lord Dorchester promised them a Supply of Provisions, when the nations next met for considering on their affairs.

That period was intended in September last but their enemy being in the Country they could not assemble. The Requisition forwarded to you the 24th September last recapitulates the proportions

*The officers of the Indian Department have in several instances interfered in behalf of Prisoners and prevailed on the Indians to deliver them up, after which they have been sent to their respective homes.

of the different articles which appear to me necessary and proper for the year 1792, and I hope they will meet your approbation and early attention.

It must now, more than ever, most evidently appear that whilst we keep the Western Indians our friends, this post may bid defiance to any enemy, from any land expedition, that may be contemplated against it; and I am persuaded myself that the Provisions & Supplies which Government have allowed, or may hereafter allow to them, either from benevolence, or a desire to cultivate their friendship, and good will, exclusive of the advantages derived from their trade, are most apparently useful and advantageous to Great Britain.

The Country which the Americans are endeavouring to wrest from the Indians; is the only Part in which they could subsist, and it would seem the greatest injustice to deprive the natural and perpetual possessors thereof of their only means of existence.

If the terms of peace proposed by the Indians, last summer had met with the success they merited we should not now have occasion to deplore the effusion of so much Blood, and I most sincerely wish, that the Americans, now convinced of the difficulty of subduing a Brave & warlike race of People, may listen to the Voice of Equity and Reason and establish a firm & lasting Peace on the Principles of natural Justice & Humanity

I have the honor to be with
Sir Your most obedient
and faithful humble Servant
(Signed) A. McKee.

Sir John Johson, Bart,
&c &c &c Montreal.

P. S. It appears that one Ouia and about 20 Chickasaws attended the American army, the former was taken by the Chippaways.

Endorsed:
In Lt. Gov. Clarke's No. 22, of 11th Febr 1792.

[Q 58–1, p 223]
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MEMORIAL OF MONTREAL MERCHANTS RESPECTING TRADE.

To His Excellency John Graves Simcoe Esquire Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief, in and over the Province of Upper Canada &c. &c.

[No. 1.]

Sir,

As Your Excellency is appointed by His Majesty, to the Government of a new Province, on which almost the whole of the Indian Trade of this Country depends, we presume upon your goodness in not deeming it an intrusion upon your other avocations, if we endeavour to state to you such particulars regarding it, as we conceive to be of importance. Deeply interested as we are in that trade, above two thirds of which passes through our hands, it will not be supposed that we would intentionally adduce opinions prejudicial to the Interests of our Mother Country or this. The Commercial and Political Interests are so blended and interwoven as to leave almost no discrimination—What affects the one necessarily affects also the other, and no event could give so fatal a stab to the growing prosperity and importance of these Provinces, as the surrender of the Posts. We have ever deplored with the deepest regret; the impolicy, want of local information, and lavish unnecessary concession, which induced the Negotiator of the Treaty with America, to lay at her feet the most valuable Branch of Trade in this Country; by ceding so large a Territory, and thereby to present her with the means of our future subjugation, by putting the Keys of our remaining Colonies into her possession. Happily it can be proved, for to every man who has information upon the subject, the fact is notorious, that by the keeping possession of these posts, the trade would be exclusively preserved, and this Country more efficiently protected, at half the expence, that by giving them up, it will cost (after the trade is thereby forever gone) to have an appearance of solid defence of our remaining possessions. In place of having a wilderness for a Barrier, against the attempts of an insiduous and restless neighbor, which they could not easily traverse with the implements of regular War, we would then have them at our doors in force, protected by Forts, aided by a Naval Force, and ready to avail themselves of every advantage, that so extended, and thinly inhabited a frontier, would present to them. Arguments on this head are totally unnecessary to

one of Your Excellency's penetration. We therefore proceed to ask permission to remark, that the Fur Trade is not only a matter of magnitude with respect to the quantum thereof, but the consequences that naturally flow from it. Its annual amount may be fairly stated at £200,000 Sterling, and occasions the consumption of a large quantity of bulky British Manufactures most of which are of her native materials; and by being exclusively at present confined to Great Britain, the Fur Returns produce yearly in Duties about £30,000—Part of these Furs being wrought up into manufacture, become a source of further industry and emolument; and as a large proportion of different articles are again exported to foreign Countries, they answer to an equal quantity of ready money in the intercourse with them, and tend to keep down that balance which with one in particular (Russia) is so unfavorable to us. Baneful as the late Treaty unquestionably is to these Provinces and grating to all who are attached to their Interests, which are inseparable from those of the Mother Country, wherein eventually centers the effects of their prosperity or adversity—we say baneful as it is yet the articles are so indefinite that they cannot be understood, and must sooner or later undergo a revision and explanation—That moment we look forward to as the favorable time for a resumption of the Sacrifices of Territory unnecessarily made, when nothing was obtained in Exchange, and which the Americans, favorable as it was for them, have notwithstanding never yet had the good faith to fulfil. Confining ourselves however to the Treaty so far as it relates to the subject matter in hand, we can assert from personal knowledge, that thereby the Fur Trade is nearly abandoned; and the part that remains within our Territory, will be rendered useless, by the great carrying Place, Pass or Road into the North West, being at least fifteen miles within the American line. The Line from the Lake of the Woods is ideal, and can never have existence, because a West course from thence would never strike the Mississippi, being more westerly than its sources, and of course the intentions of the parties (so clearly manifest both in the American and Spanish Treaties), to have a free access to, and navigation on, that River could never be obtained on our part—therefore the boundary named, has not been understood, and cannot be such a one as was intended at the time.

The great object in another negociation would be to obtain a new Line of Demarcation which comprising the Boundaries pointed

out in the Act of Parliament commonly called the Quebec Bill, would follow the High Lands, which divide the waters falling into the Atlantic, from those which fall into the Saint Lawrence, until crossing Lake Champlain in Latitude 45, the Line strikes the River near Saint Rejis—from thence proceeding up the middle of the River, Lake Ontario, and the water communications from it into Lake Erie, till it came to about Buffalo Creek, nearly opposite to Fort Erie; then striking across to the Ohio, and descending that River to its Junction with the Mississippi. To obtain full security under this view of the matter, it would be necessary also to provide for the keeping Niagara and Oswego, with such extent round those Garrisons, as might be judged proper. But supposing that so favorable a Line could not be obtained it may be proper next to enquire what further succession of Boundaries could be pointed out, so as still to reserve a material part of the Trade. Natural boundaries are most desirable when they can be had without other inconveniences, as being most definite—A Line might therefore proceed up Lake Erie (if Niagara should be ceded) to Rayago River, up that River to its source, then crossing to the nearest water course which falls into the Ohio, proceed down as before. This would still leave this Country, the Detroit, Michilimackinac and North West Trade. Supposing *that* also could not be got, the next Line would be to strike the mouth of the Miamis River, where it falls into the West end of Lake Erie, then tracing up said River to the Miamis Town, and crossing to the nearest branch of the Ouabache, proceeding downwards to its junction with the Ohio, and thence to the Mississippi as before or from the Miamis Town to the nearest Branch of the Keakikie River, down that River and thence also to the Mississippi. This would leave part of the Detroit Trade, all the Michilimackinac and North West. If a greater sacrifice became still indispensable, there is no other natural boundary, but the middle of Lake Erie, and up the Water Communication between it and Lake Huron—then along the South Western shore of that Lake to the Streights of Lake Michigan, thence along its eastern shore to Chicago River—from thence into the Illinois River, and down to its junction with the Mississippi. By this, Detroit would be abandoned, all the Trade depending thereon sacrificed, and much of that of Michilimackinac. If a still further concession was made, the Line might go from the Streights of Michigan, along its western Shore, up Green Bay to the Fox

River, and from that River to the Ouisconsing, and down to the Mississippi. The Post of Michilimackinac would by this still be preserved to us, with a part of its Trade, and we would have free access to the Mississippi by the Water Courses, which the boundary running through them would leave in common. If even *all this* must be abandoned, and still further concessions made under the Idea of the Spirit of the late Treaty, The Line should run from the Streights on Sault of Saint Mary's along the South side of Lake Superior to the Twelve Apostle Islands, then ascending a River which falls into the Lake near them, usually called River Au Serpent and striking across to another called River Sauteux (or Chipeway river) follows the stream to its emptying itself into the Mississippi at the South end of Lake Pepin in that River. No other River beyond this will admit of any useful access to the Mississippi. Nor is this a good route, the last best being those by Chicago, and the Fox River.

The Sacrifice here would be deplorable indeed, but it would remedy the defect of the present indefinite Line, and leave the North West Trade to us unfettered, whereas by the Treaty as it is, that Trade is supposed to be the property of this Country, but on examining into that more particularly, it will be found that the means of carrying it on, are given away; by the route or great pass that leads thereto, being as was observed before, at least fifteen miles within the American Line. We have gone progressively on from step to step, with anxious hearts and hopes, that a stand may be made at each intermediate Line we have pointed out, so that as little of the Country and its consequence be thrown into the scale of our Rivals as possible. We cannot bring our minds to conceive that a surrender of the Posts is meditated by Great Britain; but should circumstances unknown to us, render such a measure unavoidable in its full extent, we have firm but humble confidence that her justice will procure such a number of years previous to their surrender, as will enable them who have property there to withdraw it, and wind up their affairs; which cannot be precipitately done, without utter ruin to every person interested in that trade. Happy will it be for these Provinces, if through your Excellency's representations, and zealous assistance, something can be obtained to place so valuable a branch of Trade on a more stable and secure footing. Having already spun this detail to a length, that is imposing upon your patience, we shall quit the

subject with returning our warmest thanks for your indulgence and condescension in listening to Our representations. Permit us to have the honor of subscribing ourselves with the most profound respect.

Your Excellency's most obedient
and most humble Servants

McTavish Frobisher & Co.
Forsyth, Richardson & Co.
Todd McGill & Co.

Montreal 9th December 1791.

[Q 278, p 136]

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SIR JOHN JOHNSON'S PETITION FOR GRANT OF ISLE COCHOIJ, OPPOSITE DETROIT.

Copy of the Minutes of Council concerning the Waste Lands of the Crown from the 16th of August 1791 to the 24th of December following Inclusive.

On Friday the 14th October 1791.

At the Council Chamber in the Bishop's Palace.

Present,

His Excellency Major General Clarke, Lieut Governor and Commander in Chief and

The Honorables

Hugh Finlay	John Fraser
Edwd Harrison	William Grant
John Collins	Francis Baby
Adam Mabane	Samuel Holland
J. G. C. Delery	Le Cte Dupré.

Order of reference to the Whole Council concerning Isle Cochoij on Sir John Johnson's Petition.

His Excellency caused to be read a Report of the Land Committee dated the 14th February last, entered in the minutes of the 31st of March, upon the Petition of Sir John Johnson, Bart, for a grant of Isle Cochoij.

Ordered that the same be referred to a Committee of the whole Council to report with all convenient speed.

[Q 58–2, p 294]

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON THE CLAIM OF GREGOR MC GREGOR, SHERIFF OF DISTRICT OF HESSE.

Copy of the Minutes of Council concerning State matters from the 15th of October 1791 to the 24th of December following inclusive.

Report No. 3.

Also read the report No 3 of the same Committee dated the 14th June 1791, on a claim of Gregor McGregor Sheriff for the District of Hesse in the following words.

"To His Excellency The Right Honorable Guy Lord Dorchester
"Governor in Chief &c. &c. &c.

"Report of a Committee of Council to whom Your Excellency was "pleased to refer the Demand of Gregor McGregor Esqr Sheriff for "the District of Hesse for his Disbursements by Order of the "Commissioners of Oyer & Terminer.

"Present
"Messrs Dunn
"Harrison
"Grant

"The Committee humbly pray your Excellency will be pleased to "receive the following Journal of their proceedings as part of their "Report all which is nevertheless most humbly submitted to Your "Lordship's great wisdom.

"COUNCIL CHAMBER 14th June 1791.

By order of the Committee

(Signed) "THOMAS DUNN
"Chairman.

[Q 58-2, p 281]

"COUNCIL CHAMBER Monday 13th June 1791.

"At a meeting of a Committee of Council for examining the "Public accounts for the half year ending the 10th April last upon "a further Reference from His Excellency, Lord Dorchester dated "the 8th Instant.

"Present
"Messrs Dunn
"Harrison
"Grant

"The Committee took into consideration the accounts referred to "them of Gregor McGregor Esqr Sheriff of the District of Hesse "amounting to £28 12*s* 6*d* currency articled as follows vizt.

"Government in the Province of Quebec

"To the Sheriff in the District of Hesse Dr

"To amot of Witnesses charges as pr. accot herewith	£13—10—0
"To paid Madam Pratt for hire of a Court Room as per Receipt £15 Yk Curry	9— 7—6
"To paid John Smith Bailiff for summoning Jurors &c as pr accot & Receipt	4— 5—0
"To paid Henry Botsford for Repairs done to the Court room as pr Receipt & accot £2—8—0	1—10—0
"Halifax Curry	£28—12—6

Detroit 3d May 1791.

(Signed) "Gregor McGregor

"Sheriff

"together with a Letter from the Commissioners of Oyer & Terminer "to His Excellency Lord Dorchester as follows.

Detroit 30th April 1791.

"My Lord,

"We have the honor to represent to your Lordship that the Dis- "trict being without funds for defraying the unavoidable expenses "of Criminal prosecutions and especially of the Crown Witnesses; "We have taken upon ourselves to direct the Disbursements neces- "sary to carry into effect the Commission of Oyer & Terminer "and General Goal delivery upon the trial of Adam Storetineger, "the accot of which we submit for Your Lordship's approbation, "and permission to the Sheriff to draw for the amount and we "intreat your Lordship's directions on this head for our future "guidance should the Bills of Indictment now found create further "expence.

"We have the honor to be

"My Lord

"Your Lordship's most

"obedient & most humble Servants

(Signed) "Wm. Dummer Powell

"Adhemar St. Martin

"John Askin.

"The Committee are of opinion that Mr. McGregor should be "reimbursed the amount of his present account when his affidavit "of the payment thereof shall be transmitted to the office of His "Excellency The Governor's Secretary, together with a certificate "from the Commissioners of the Reasonableness of the charges but

"have resolved that the chairman signify to the Commissioners that "by a Resolve of a Committee of the whole Council of the 6 May "1789 charges of Bailiffs for summoning Jurors & Peace officers "for Quebec & Montreal were deemed inadmissable and that the "Committee are of opinion any such charges in future from Hesse "will share the same fate.

"Ordered that the Chairman Report

"By order of the Committee

(Signed) "THOMAS DUNN Chairman."

Report of a Committee of the Whole Council on the foregoing Reports No. 1, 2, & 3.

Then read a Report of a Committee of the whole Council dated the 17th Inst. on the three last mentioned Reports in the following words.

"To His Excellency Alured Clarke Esqr Lieut Governor of the "Province of Quebec &c. &c.

"Report of a Committee of the whole Council (the members "assembled being the Chief Justice & Messrs Finlay, Dunn, Harri- "son, Collins, De Lery, Caldwell, Grant, Baby, Holland, De Lan- "audiere, & Dupré) on three seperate Reports of the Committee of "accounts referred on the 15th August last.

"May it please Your Excellency.

"The Committee being met this Day upon due consideration had "of the Reports in reference, agree to Report their opinion in "concurrence with the Private Committee of accounts. All which is "nevertheless most humbly submitted to Your Excellency's great "wisdom.

"Signed by order of the Committee.

"COUNCIL CHAMBER, BISHOP'S PALACE,
Saturday 17th Decemr 1791.

(Signed) "WILLIAM SMITH, Chairman."

His Excellency informed the Board he had ordered Warrants to be made out for the sums recommended in the said three several Reports to be paid.

REPORT OF THE LAND COMMITTEE UPON THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE LAND OFFICE BOARD OF HESSE.

Read a Report of the Land Committee upon the proceedings of the Land Office Board of Hesse* between 29th October 1790 and 13th May 1791, in the following words.

"To His Excellency Alured Clarke, Esquire Lieutenant Governor
"and Commander in Chief of the Province of Quebec &c &c &c
"Major General commanding His Majesty's Forces in America
"(&c. &c. &c.)

"Report of the Land Committee (consisting of Messrs Finlay, "Collins & Grant) upon the proceedings of the Land Office Board "of Hesse, between the 29th October 1790 and 13th May 1791.

"May it please Your Excellency.

"In obedience to His Excellency Lord Dorchester's Order of "Reference, The Land Committee proceeded to examine the Papers "transmitted from Hesse, to the office of His Lordship's Secretary, "and having duly considered the minutes between the 29th of Octo- "ber, 1790 and the 22d April 1791 marked B, they concur with the "Board in the Propriety of having granted certificates of Location "to these Persons who had applied for Lots, agreeable to the "Schedules accompanying the minutes of the Board;

"And having fully considered the minute of the Board of the 6th "of May last, relative to a Petition from several Inhabitants on the "East side of the Streight of Detroit, for Grants of Lands lying "immediately behind the Lots they actually possess, The Committee "concur in opinion with the Board, that the request in that Petition "contained is unreasonable, and that to comply therewith would be "hurtful to the Settlement;

"And they likewise join in opinion with the Land Board That "the apprehensions of the Inhabitants on the West side of the "Streight relative to an intended alteration of the Boundary Lines "of their Farms, (as stated in their Petition), are without foundation.

"All which is nevertheless submitted to Your Excellency's wisdom.

"Signed by order of the Committee.

"COUNCIL CHAMBER, BISHOP'S PALACE,
"QUEBEC 9th Decemr 1791.
"(Signed) HUGH FINLAY, in the Chair.

[Q 58-2, p 371]

* For Journal of Proceedings of the Land Committee see page 44.

"Read a Report of the Land Committee upon the proceedings of "the Land Board of Hesse from the 16th to the 30th September "1791 in the following words.

"To His Excellency Alured Clarke, Esquire Lieutenant Governor "and Commander in Chief of the Province of Quebec &c "&c &c Major General Commanding His Majesty's Forces in "America &c &c &c.

"Report of the Land Committee (consisting of Messrs Finlay, "Collins & Grant) upon the Proceedings of the Land Board of "Hesse of the 16th to the 30th September 1791.

"May it please your Excellency.

"The Land Committee in obedience to Your Excellency's Order "of Reference of the 6th Inst have fully considered the minute of "the Land Board for the District of Hesse of the 13th September, "and they have the Honor to report thereupon That the case of "Frederick Arnold as stated in the Minute, seems particularly hard; "It appears that seven years ago he brought with him into this "Province 25 Families, and that neither himself, nor any of his "followers have been able to procure a foot of the Waste Lands "of the Crown to settle upon, and improve for the benefit of their "families; they have been obliged to hire Farms, and Mr Arnold "himself to purchase one which is not sufficient to occupy his "family. That immediately upon the Survey of the Lands at the "River La Franche he marked for himself and his eldest son, two "unclaimed Lots, for which he immediately petitioned the Board, "not presuming to make Improvements without leave. He has the "Mortification to find one *Gibson*, formerly a Ranger, and a new "comer named *Watson*, set down upon and improving those very "lots which he apprehends may occasion difficulty to him in discuss- "ing his claim. The People he brought with him reproach him "dayly, and threaten to return to the States, as they see no pros- "pect of obtaining lands; that seeing so many obstacles have been "from year to year thrown in the way to obstruct the Settlement of "the Country, he concludes with praying the Board would take his "hard case into their consideration.

"The Committee observe on the foregoing Statement of Mr "Arnold's case, that he has great reason to complain—They con- "sider that neither *Gibson* nor *Watson* have pretensions to the Lots "marked by Mr Arnold for himself and son at the River La Franche "& they humbly recommend that the Land Board of Hesse may be

"instructed to secure those two Lots for Mr Arnold and his son, "and to assure the people who followed him into this Country, "that they shall obtain Portions of Land for themselves and fami- "lies so soon as the necessary surveys can be compleated.

"The Committee next proceeded to consider Mr T. Smith's Let- "ter to the Land Board dated the 8th September 1791, entered "upon the Minute, applying for payment from government for past "services as Clerk to the Land Board; but as the Board at Hesse "make no objection upon the Letter, this Committee cannot give "an opinion upon the advisibility of his claim.

"No further observations on the matters stated in the Minutes "appearing to the committee to be necessary on their part, they "proceeded to consider a Report in form of a Letter from the "Land Board of Hesse to His Excellency Lord Dorchester dated "the 23rd of last September; upon which the Committee observe, "That the Board had imagined from Lord Dorchester's order in "Council of the 23rd July last, that it was then conceived by His "Lordship and the Council, that all claims for Lands made by "Loyalists and reduced Troops in the District of Hesse were then "nearly satisfied! But the Board states, that from the delay from the "purchase from the Indians, and the restraint the Board lay under "from the Instructions, confining their operations to Lands actually "surveyed and unclaimed by Indians, they have not been able to "locate a single Petitioner, excepting upon one irregular Tract on "Lake Erie, where divers families were placed before the Land Board "was constituted;

"And continuing to assign reasons why they have granted no "location certificates, altho' they have before them above three "hundred applications for Lots, they set forth; That they could "not proceed from the want of the General and particular survey "required by the General Instructions and declared to be indispen- "sably necessary by a Report of Council of 28th June 1790, but "which they have not been able to obtain neither from the Sur- "veyor General's office at Quebec nor from the acting Surveyor on "the Spot, and they refer His Lordship to the several Reports, "hereunto annexed, and communications of the acting Surveyor to "the Land Board on its respective Instructions for partial surveys "accompanying their Report, that His Lordship at one view may "see that no exertion has been wanting on the part of the Board "to effect the object in view.

"The Land Board next refer His Lordship to the whole of their "proceedings from time to time as transmitted to the office of the "Governor's Secretary, for a detail of the various difficulties to be "combated and conquered by the Board before the Regulations for "its conduct can be complied with.

"The Committee beg leave to refer Your Excellency to their "Report of the 29th November last, upon the difficulties and impedi- "ments here alluded to by the Board, which appear to have obstructed "the Settlement of the Waste Lands in the District of Hesse; and "where the Committee humbly propose the means of removing them.

"The Land Board perceive a necessity for the assistance of two or "more active and willing Surveyors, for at least one Season; and the "Committee conceive that one Surveyor is by no means sufficient for "the pressing work to be done in the District of Hesse, that the dis- "charged Troops and Loyalists may be no longer disappointed in "their expectation of Lands which they have so long anxiously "looked for in vain.

"The Committee having gone through the Report proceeded to "consider the Paper indorsed. "*Reports and Communications of the* "*Acting Surveyor*" alluded to by the Board, and after having perused "the whole with attention, they state,

" That it appears " That Mr McNiff, on the 22d May, was enjoined " "to Report an actual Survey of the Front of the Tract then lately " "ceded to the Crown, and to mark the boundaries of each Township " "from Long Point on Lake Erie to the Streight, and to confirm to " "the additional Rules of 25th August 1790, in laying out the " "Same." Mr McNiff The Acting Surveyor (25 June) conceives " "the Survey lately performed by him to have been made under " "the authority of the Commanding Officer Major Murray, He has " "had no official communications from the Land Board; neverthe- " "less he will deliver to their Clerk, a copy of the Report he " "made to the Surveyor General on the 24th June, and he informs " "that he is now ready to execute the Board's orders.

"His Report to Major Murray states, the nature of the Shore " "along the Lake is improper for the scites of Townships from " "their very high situation inaccessible to the Lake; and altho' " "in some places the Land, is good, in others the soil is clay " "and yellow sand, extending from one to two miles and a half " "back from the shore; & some is marshy, in short very unfit " "for Townships that by the proposed plans are to be skirted in " "front by water.

"On 2d July "the Board ordered a Survey of the Front of the " "Tract lately ceded to the Crown along the Shore of Lake Erie " "from long Pointe to the Isle Bois Blanc, to be guided by the " "10th article of the Rules and Regulations of 17th February 1789, " "and 3d article of additional Instructions of 25th August, and " "they directed the Surveyor to report the deviations from the " "Rules, should any be necessary."

"3d July "The Acting Surveyor Reports that a Site of a Town- " "ship of Ten miles good Land fronting the Lake (where the " "Rules can be followed) commencing at the East side of Pointe " "aux Pins, another, from the East End of the present new Settle- " "ments, up to Detroit River 20 miles but of which 15 miles in " "front is already occupied which will prevent a Town being laid " "out there."

"30 July 1790, "upon observations made by Mr McNiff the Board " "make no alteration in the order of the 2d July and ordered *4* " "Townships to be laid out.

"31st July "The Acting Surveyor Mr McNiff informs the Board " "that the last is not so explicit as the first order which the " "Board intended to mend; and informs the Board that the uncer- " "tainty he is in in consequence of their orders prevents him from " "proceeding. On the 11th August an amended and full order is " "given to the Acting Surveyor by the Board."

"3rd September "It appears that the Board received a rough " "sketch of a Survey of the Front of Two Townships on the " "Streight of Lake Erie, conformable to the Instructions of 11th " "August."

"24th September "The Board called on Mr McNiff for information " "as to the time they might expect a regular Plan and Report of the " "Survey ordered 11th August."

"Mr McNiff requested the further indulgence of the Board for his " "Report

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"The Committee humbly submit, whether deviations from the X "Article of the Rules and Regulation for the conduct of the Land "Office Department of 17th February & 25th August 1790, may not "be permitted, wherever the Land Board may perceive that a steady "adherence to the General Model, would tend to retard the Settlement

"of the Waste Lands appertaining to the Crown on the important "frontier of Detroit;

"All which is nevertheless humbly submitted to Your Excellency's "wisdom.

"Signed by order of the Committee

"COUNCIL CHAMBER, BISHOP'S PALACE,
QUEEC 16 Decemr 1791.
(Signed) HUGH FINLAY, in the Chair.

[Q 58-2, p 420]

CONCERNING THE LAYING OUT OF DISTRICT GEORGETOWN, OPPOSITE ISLE BOIS BLANC. MAJ. R. MATHEWS, COMMANDING DETROIT.

SATURDAY 24th December 1791.

At the Council Chamber in the Bishop's Palace.

Present,

His Excellency Major General Clarke, Lieutenant Governor & Commander in Chief.

The Honorable William Smith, Esquire, Chief Justice, and

The Honorable

Hugh Finlay	William Grant
Thomas Dunn	Francis Baby
Edward Harrison	Samuel Holland
John Collins	Charles de Lanaudiere
J. G. C. DeLery	&
Henry Caldwell	Le Cte Dupré

Esquires.

Concerning the District of Hesse.

Read a Report of the Land Committee dated 29th November 1791, upon a Reference of his Excellency Lord Dorchester relative to the settlement of the Waste Lands of the Crown in the District of Hesse in the following words.

"To His Excellency Alured Clarke, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor "& Commander in Chief of the Province of Quebec &c. &c. &c. "Major General Commanding His Majesty's Forces in America "&ca &ca.

"Report of the Land Committee (Consisting of Messrs Finlay, "Collins, Grant & DeLanaudiere) upon His Excellency Lord Dor- "chester's reference relative to the settlement of the waste Lands "in the District of Hesse.

"May it please Your Excellency

"In obedience to the commands of the Right Honorable Lord "Dorchester, signified to this Committee by Mr Secretary Motz in "his Letter dated 20th Octr 1790, addressed to the Chairman & "accompanied by Sundry Papers *relative* to the Land Granting "Department in Hesse, referred to their consideration they pro- "ceeded on the 22d of that month to enter upon the examination "of the Papers laid before them & continued to give that business "all possible dispatch; but considering the length of time that this "reference has been before the Committee, they beg leave to refer "Your Excellency to the Journals of the Proceedings which state "their Progress, & shew the reasons why this Business could not be "sooner closed.

"The Committee as appears by the Order of Reference entered "on the first Page of the Journal, have been required to report with "due particularity.

First "Upon the causes of the Difficulties and impediments which "appear to have obstructed the progress of the Settlement on the "important Frontier of Detroit.

Second "The means of removing them, and giving effect to the "several Instructions issued from time to time respecting the set- "tlement of the Waste Lands of the Crown in that District."

"*Third* To report concerning the object and intended use of the "Reservations in the late Indian Cession in favour of the Hurons."

"*Fourth* & lastly "To point out the practicabilty of such means "as may be suggested for satisfying those Indians in any other "part of the District & upon what Terms."

"And proceeding to enquire into the first object of the reference—

"The Committee find, that His Excellency Lord Dorchester had "given orders as early as the 15th May 1789, to Major Mathews "then commanding at Detroit to lay out a Township to be called "George Town, on the East side of the Streight opposite to the "Island of Bois Blanc, with directions, to follow without delay, "a certain Plan sent, but signifying at the same time, that no portion "of the Township was to be disposed of to individuals previous to "the satisfaction of the Indians for such claims as they might have "to any part of the Tract.

"It appears further, that the site of the intended Township had "been ceded by the Huron & other Indians in June 1784, to cer- "tain officers and others of the Indian Department, who had served "with them during the War, & it appears, that His Excellency Sir

"Frederick Haldimand had in August 1784, directed the Lieutenant "Governor of Detroit (Mr Hay), to give every encouragement to "those officers and men to make immediate settlement on that Tract "promising that their portion of the gift, from the Indians, should "be confirmed to them in due time by proper Deeds according to "the King's Instructions.

"It appears, that in consequence of that incouragement the Lands "facing Bois Blanc, were laid out in allotments and given in posses- "sion of those Officers & Men; and *that Possession,* was confirmed "by Major Mathews in 1787, in consequence of orders from Lord "Dorchester.

"That the Settlement was advancing, until the Rations and "farming utensils which had been issued for some time by order "of Government to those Settlers (Loyalists who had served during "the War), were withheld, upon which one hundred young men "unable, without that assistance, to proceed in their Improvements, "left their Lots.

"It further appears from the Information given by the Deputy "Superintendant of Indian Affairs (Mr McKee) to the land Board "of Hesse in 1789, that the settlement of the District could not be "effected, because all the Soil was then claimed by the Indian "Nations, and by individuals holding Tracts under Indian Grants; "and that Major Mathews had received orders, to see that no set- "tlers should be suffered to sit down in any part of the District "before purchase made thereof from the Natives for the use of the "Crown; and it likewise appears from what Mr McNiff the Deputy "Surveyor of the District had stated to the Board that no Lands had "been purchased from the Indians for the Crown, before the 26th of "May 1790, consequently no Location Certificates could have been "granted by the Land Board previous to that Day, nor could the "Board have proceeded to issue certificates previous to the general "Survey of the Tract purchased, from Catfish Creek on the North "Shore of Lake Erie, running along that shore & up the Streight, to "the River du Chenail Ecarte, which Survey was not laid before the "Board until the 30th of July, two months after the purchase had "been made.

"The following reasons have been assigned, why but few settlements "have been made between that Day, and the Month of May last.

"*First* The Land Board has not been able to obtain from the Dep- "uty Surveyor of the District, a Return of Survey of a single Town- "ship to direct them in granting Location Certificates.

"*Second.* That if ten Farm Lots are to be reserved in the hands "of the Crown in all Townships situated on a Navigable River or "water, as is directed by the Rules & Regulations of the 25th "August 1789, issued for the conduct of the Land Office Depart- "ment, a strict adherence to that rule will greatly retard the set- "tlement of such Townships; because, it would prove exceedingly "inconvenient to the Settlers to have a space of more than two "miles remaining uncleared between their Farms and the River; on "this Representation from the Settlers, the Land Board, as well as "the Surveyors of the District, join in opinion with the People, "and Mr McNiff states, That if that Rule shall be followed up, "many People now in possession of Cultivated Farms under Grants "from the commandants at Detroit, as well before as after the "Conquest, and of those who sat down in the District under "Indian Grants, will be dispossessed, to the great annoyance of indus- "trious Individuals; and further, That if the Tract at the River "Canard, ceded by the Indians to the Crown in May 1786, shall "be given up to the Huron Indians in consequence of the reser- "vation made in their favour by the Deputy Superintendant of "Indian affairs, their holding that Tract will greatly retard the settle- "ment of the Lands lying upon and adjacent to the Streight of "Detroit; and prove a great annoyance to the Inhabitants of the "intended County Town opposite to the Isle of Bois Blanc.

"Thus having stated the Reasons assigned for the slow progress "hitherto made in the settlement of the District of Hesse. The Com- "mittee next proceed to the *Second* object of the Reference vizt "The means of removing the difficulties and impediments above "enumerated."

" They observe, that as the main obstruction to the Settlement "of that Frontier appears to have been removed by the late Pur- "chase from the Indians of The Tract from Catfish Creek, com- "monly called Riviere à la Chandiere; extending Westward to the "Mouth of the River Ecarte, it would seem that there remains but "to lay out Townships in the most commodious situations in that "Tract, for the accommodation of Settlers, and further to direct "that the Three first ranges of concessions at least, may be laid "out in the manner recommended by Sir John Johnson in his Letter "to the Chairman of this Committee of the 27th of January last, so "as to prevent difficulty in ascertaining with due precision, the differ- "ent Lots therein contained.

"It is humbly submitted to your Excellency whether, considering "the objection that settlers generally have to sit down in any place, "when their communication with the River is barred by Wood Lands "(as set forth by the Land Board & the Surveyor of Hesse) it might "not be advisable to grant all the Front Farm Lots in Townships "situated on Navigable Rivers and Waters, the reserves to be made "elsewhere within the Tract, as the best means to draw settlers to "the important Frontier of Hesse & further whether it may not be "expedient to confirm to the People now settled upon the River "Canard, and other places in that District. The improved Lands "they actually possess, whether under Indian grants or otherwise, "together with an additional portion of the Waste Lands appertain- "ing to the Crown, adjoining thereto, to make a Farm of Two "Hundred Acres in Superficie.

"The Committee conceive that it may not be improper under this "head, to remark upon Mr McNiff's animadversions on the Mem- "bers of the Land Office Board of Hesse, under a notion that "their want of knowledge in the business of Land surveying is one "of the reasons why the settlement of the District has been and "still may be retarded; and giving his opinion, That gentlemen in "the commercial line, or having family connections with Persons "in Traffic, are unfit for a seat at this Board; insinuating that they "may be actuated by apprehensions that the settlement of the Coun- "try might affect the Interest of People in Trade.

"The Committee do not concur with Mr McNiff in, that it is "necessary for the Members of the Land Office Boards to under- "stand Practical Surveying. The Rules & Regulations issued for the "conduct of the Land Granting Department are full and explicit so "as to secure the utmost regularity in carrying on that business, "where due attention is given thereto by the Surveyors & others "concerned in the execution thereof.

"The Committee consider the Gentlemen who compose the Land "Board of Hesse to be in every respect adequate to the Trust "reposed in them by His Excellency Lord Dorchester & well mer- "iting that confidence from their general knowledge, from their "situations in Life and from their thorough acquaintance with the "true Interests of the Country in general & of the District of "Hesse in particular.

"It appears by the Proceedings of that Board which have hitherto "been referred to this Committee, they have never lost sight of the

"Interests of the Crown; and they have done their best endeavours "to remove every obstruction & obviate every difficulty that appeared "to impede the settlement of the important Frontier of Detroit.

"Third. Upon the third object contained in the order of Refer- "ence vizt To point out the intended use of the reservation in "the late Indian Cession."

"Mr McKee the Deputy Superintendant of Indian Affairs has set "forth, That it would have been impracticable to obtain from the "Indians the extensive Tract from Catfish Creek, to the River of Che- "nail Ecarté (which they gave up to the Crown in May 1790) unless "he had agreed to the condition they had stipulated vizt.

"*That the Tract which had been ceded to the Crown in May 1786,* "*lying on the River Canard of seven miles square or thereby should be* "*given up for the Huron Indians.*

"That he conceived himself vested with full power and Authority "to agree to that condition by virtue of Lord Dorchester's order "relative to the Purchase to be made from the Indians. "*That all* "*possible regard should be had of their Ease and Comfort,*" and Mr "McKee states that the Hurons had ever considered that Tract to "be essential to their Comfort, their sole intention in ceding it in "1786, was *to have it put into Mr McKee's hands to prevent encroach-* "*ments by the Settlers in the neighbourhood.*

"The Committee do not find, from any other communication before "them, the uses proposed to be made of the Tract in Question.

"Fourth. On the Fourth and last object of the reference vizt. The "practicability of satisfying the Huron Indians in any other part of "the District."

"The Committee find by a Letter of Sir John Johnson dated in "February last, that he is of opinion, it would be difficult to prevail "on the Huron Indians to give up the whole of the Tract reserved "for their use, yet he imagines they may be brought to relinquish as "much of it as may answer for the scite of a Town.

"The Deputy Surveyor of the District states, *that he conceives* the "Indians may be induced to quit claim totally for a Trifling consid- "eration seeing they may be well provided with Land at the River "Chenail Ecarté on the North East Shore near the entrance of "Lake St Clair.

"The Land Board of Hesse, likewise consider, that it is practi- "cable to satisfy the Indians, and for that end suggest the expedi- "ency of treating with the Chiefs of the Chippawa & Ottawa Nations

"who were Parties as well to the Deed of Cession of the Seven "Mile Tract in May 1786, as to the cession of the Great Tract in "May 1790.

"The Board at the same time conceive, that it may be necessary "to allow them a consideration which they probably looked for "when they ceded the Tract in May 1786, which the Indians do "not consider as compensated by the Presents made them in 1790.

"The Committee beg leave to observe to Your Excellency, that, "altho', with the Land Board of Hesse they consider the Tract "ceded by the Indians in May 1786, to be vested in the Crown, "yet, as it has been set forth by the Deputy Superintendant of "Indian Affairs (who had full Power of and Authority to treat with "the Indians for the purchase of the large Tract ceded in May "1790) that he had found it necessary to reserve the Tract at the "River Canard for the use of the Huron Indians, it appears advisable "that the said Reservation be confirmed to them in due form, pro- "vided they cannot be induced to relinquish it. But as it has been "stated by the Land Board of Hesse & by the Deputy Surveyor of "the District, That should the Tract in question remain in the Pos- "session of Indians, The Settlement on the Frontier at Detroit, "would be greatly retarded and the people who are already fixed "there be much incommoded by their neighbourhood.

"This Committee, on the whole, humbly recommend that Sir John "Johnson, the Superintendant of Indian Affairs, may be intrusted "to direct the Deputy Superintendant at Detroit, to do his utmost "endeavours to persuade the Huron Indians to relinquish their "present claim to the Seven Mile Tract at the River Canard, and "in conjunction with the Land Office Board for the District, to "hold up as an inducement thereto, a grant of a Tract of equal "extent, upon the North East Shore of the entrance of Lake St "Claire, and that they may be vested with joint authority to make "such other compensation as may appear necessary to accomplish "the great object in view.

"All which is nevertheless submitted to Your Excellency's great "wisdom.

"Signed by order of the Committee

(Signed) "Hugh Finlay
in the Chair."

"Council Chamber, Bishop's Palace,
"Quebec 29th Novr 1791."

[Q 58-2, p 302]

CAPT. JOSEPH BRANDT TO JOSEPH CHEW.

Extract of a Letter from Capt Brandt, to Joseph Chew Secretary of Indian Affairs dated Niagara 30th December 1791.

"With respect to the Western Nations about 1000 Indians assembled and marched from the Miamis Towns, in order to meet the Americans with whose camp they were in hearing of on the evening of the 4th of November, the Indians formed a half Moon

The Wyandots, and five Nations composed the right, the Shawanese & Delawares the center, and the Lake Indians the left, the young men before 12 o'clock at night brought off between 3 & 400 Horses and a number of cattle, though the Chief endeavoured to restrain them. At daylight in the morning of the 5th the Indians attacked the Camp those of the Right rushed in and took possession of the Cannon, and the left gave way by which St Clair wheeled & drove back the right, those who formed the center getting into the middle of the camp attacked this Body under St Clair who gave way leaving their cannon & camp in possession of the Indians, before 8 o'clock the engagement in the camp was over and a few Indians pursued who did a great deal of mischief but the greatest part took to plundering the camp—the cannon was divided among the different Nations who not being able to bring it off hid it, before the Engagement 200 Kentucky Militia deserted, as Horses with Provisions was expected 300 men was sent after them to prevent their plundering the provision by which means there was but 2200 in camp when attacked, a Prisoner since taken who was one of the 300 and at Fort Jefferson when Mr St Clair and his flying Troops got there says, only 800 had got off who marched to Fort Hamilton leaving the wounded who could not march and 70 men at the Fort. When our people left that Country a large body was forming to go against both the Forts"

Endorsed:
In Lt. Govr. Clarke's No. 22, of 11th Feby. 1792.

[Q 58–1, p 227]

ABSTRACT OF ESTIMATES.

Abstract of estimates approved for services to be carried into immediate execution in the Engineers Department in Canada between the 25th December 1791 and 24th December 1792.

1792.		£	s	d	£	s	d
January 21st	Estimate for making gun carriages, &c. Michilimakinac Detroit &c vizt:						
	Workmanship ... No. 1	31	2	3			
	Materials ... No. 1	33	8	11			
					64	11	2
	Estimate for sundry repairs necessary at Detroit:						
	Workmanship ... No. 8	7	14	6			
	Materials ... No. 8	17	6	6			
					25	1	0
	Estimate for repairs to Fort Lernoult at Detroit:						
	Workmanship ... No. 13	137	18	6			
	Materials ... No. 13	141	16	0			
					279	14	6

In Lt. Govr Clarke's No. 66, of 2d Feb. 1793.

[Q 62, p 79]

ESTIMATE.

QUEBEC 24th January 1792.

Estimate of the expence of making the undermentioned Garrison Carriages and Ordnance Stores for the Posts of Michilimakinac, Detroit and Niagara, and for the Vessels on the Lakes from the Return of Major Stewart, Commanding the Royal Artillery, dated 1 January 1792.

Garrison Carriages	6 prs	Two
	½ prs	Three
	3½ In Howit	Two
Sling Cart		One
Hand Spikes		Sixty Three
Leavers Hand Iron		Fourteen
Barrows Hand		Three
Carpenters work		£11—16—9
Wheelers		3— 5—0
Smiths		13—17—0
Painters		—18—0
Sawyers		1— 5—6
		£31— 2—3

Materials necessary.

Fifty six cubic feet of Oak
Four feet runng. Do 16 In. Diam.
Twenty two feet cube of Ash
One hundred twenty feet Hickory 12 In. Diamr.
Two Ash Plank 12 ft long 2 in thick
Eight hundred seventy six lbs Iron
Three hundred lbs flat Iron
Fifty lbs ⅞ Bar Iron
Thirty eight lbs White Lead
Ten lbs Black Paint
Six gallons Linseed Oil
Three quarts Spirits of Turpentine
Six lbs Putty
One hundred 6d Clout Nails
Four Paint Brushes

Amounting to Thirty one Pounds, Two Shillings & Three Pence Currency.

BENJN. FISHER
Capt Commg Rl Engrs.

Amount of Materials
Thirty three Pounds 11*s* 3*d* Cy.

Approved, ALURED CLARKE.

By the Major General's Command
FRANS. LEMAISTRE M. S.

N. B. The Carriages reported to be in want of repairs at Niagara and Detroit, can not be estimated here it is therefore proposed to send directions to have the work done, and an Estimate transmitted by the first opportunity.

At Niagara.

At Detroit.

Carriages { Travelling 6 Pr. One
Garrison 6 Pr. Two

Endorsed: No. 1, 21st Jany. 1792.
Estimate for making Gun Carriages &c. for Michilimakinac, Detroit, and Niagara, £31—2—3.
In Lt. Govr. Clarke's No. 66, of 2d Feb. 1793.

[Q 62, p 83]

SAMUEL KIRKLAND TO COL. JOSEPH BRANT.

ONEIDA January 3rd 1792.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

Your last friendly letter wrote in the Indian language from Grand River I did not receive till the month of August, its contents however afforded me great pleasure as you still gave me encouragement of the long expected and intended visit to the seat of Government, some time in the course of last Autumn, you was also pleased to thank me for the information I had given you of the sentiments and disposition of Congress towards the Indians within their Jurisdiction, that they had resolved to pursue such a line of conduct towards them for strict Justice and Humanity, as should bear the light of day & reflect honor on their National character.

The disturbed and hostile state of things the summer past in the vicinity of the Miamie which called for your interference, I suppose has prevented this much desired visit, which I know you have long had in contemplation. You would have heard from me before this

time, had I not taken several journeys last fall for settling my affairs, in order to remove my family into the neighborhood of Oneida which I have now happily effected, except one of my sons who is still a member of Dartmouth College and under the tuition of your old Schoolmaster Mr Wheelock.

I cannot get my friend, notwithstanding all the discouragements, to relinquish the Idea of the civilization of some of the Indian tribes till one fair trial is made upon a plan different from any that has been adopted, that we now begin with the means that introduce to the first Stages of Society, vizt, Agriculture, the Mechanic arts, and Common Schools for their children in their own country, perhaps three or four promising geniuses who bear the marks of originality may be carried farther into the field of science. I have drafted a plan for this purpose, in which plan are many Ideas I collected from your own observations upon the subject at our last interview.

I have the pleasure Sir to inform you that the Civilization of the various Indian Tribes has become an object of attention with the general government which indeed bears a very different complexion from the State Governments in regard to Indians, the Creeks & the Cherokees begin to feel the good effects of it.

For this Establishment we are not a little indebted to the humanity and wisdom of our illustrious President, the goodness of whose heart and rectitude of whose intentions are become the admiration of many kingdoms and States, I dont wonder after all the great characters you have seen in your tour in Europe, you should still indulge a curiosity of getting a look at the great American Chief Washington, as you once expressed it. I can assure you I think it a laudable curiosity, a certain foreigner lately observed on the occasion, that he had been introduced to the King of England and the King of France but he never felt the presence of a man before as when introduced to President Washington, however my friend he is but a man after all, nevertheless a man with whom America & the world are blessed.

You have doubtless before this heard of the last Treaty held at Newton point, by Coll Pickering appointed Superintendant from Congress, the Indians have told me it was their opinion that there had not been a treaty held with them for the space of fifty years which had given more general satisfaction, Colonel Pickering would have been very happy to have seen you there, and I now find he has

expressed a desire that you should accompany a delegation from the Six Nations (in a message he has had occasion lately to send to them) to the seat of Government and permit me my dear friend to intreat you as a friend to Indians to improve this favourable Juncture, your own personal merit will insure you a cordial welcome and every mark of respect you can wish.

I know of no person who is under equal advantages and more capable of contributing to the happiness and real interest of the poor Indians than you are—however I must request a personal interview, should your situation prevent the undertaking so long a journey I will meet you by the 20th Inst at Genesee or any place in its vicinity you shall appoint that may be most convenient these and many things of importance relative to the Indians upon which I am very desirous of a conference with you, perhaps there never was a time, my friend, since you came upon the stage of action, in which you might render more essential service to the cause of humanity than the present, and which invites you to acquire a character equally conspicuous for goodness of heart, as for enterprize and bravery, & finally to meet the approbation of your own conscience with the plaudit of your God.

Mr Munroe intended to write you but I could not call upon him, Mr Phelps with many of your worthy, will be glad to see you and none more than

Dear Sir

Your affectionate Friend

& Father.

(Signed) SAMUEL KIRKLAND.

P S. I hope you will dispatch the messenger with the shortest delay should you conclude to make the proposed visit.

I will accompany you in person through the whole Tour should you chose it, and am not afraid to pledge my honour or even my life for your safety, as to my own feelings & the good will I bear towards both, to your person, character and happiness, you want no further assurances since what passed betwixt us at Fort Stanwix.

Col. Joseph Brant.

MONTREAL 16th April 1792.

A true copy.

(Signed) JOSEPH CHEW

S. I. A

Endorsed: 5.

In Lieut. Govr. Clarke's No. 29, of 28th April 1792.

CAPT. JOSEPH BRANT TO JOSEPH CHEW.

Extract of a Letter from Captain Joseph Brant to J. Chew S. I. A. dated at the Grand River January 19th 1792.

"We are going to assemble ourselves on this River in a few days "vizt, the Grand River Indians & a few Whites who live among "us, in order to try to regulate some matters for the good of the "public, and wish to renew some good old customs of our Fore-"fathers.

"I believe we shall be Intirely Independent from the Buffaloe "Creek Indians, for their present measures so widely differ from "ours, this is the consequence of our friends the English, stopping "those Indians from crossing the River to our side, the Yankees lost "no time in confirming them in the mind to keep on that side & "making them enemies to you and us."

"I have been lately informed that some of the members of Congress "intend to invite me to them, I understand it is the opposition party, "who wish to know which way the Indians could be treated to bring "about a peace between them & the States, I think I shall go provided "they send me a strong Invitation and not otherways."

A. C.

Endorsed: 4.
In Lieut Govr. Clarke's No. 29, of 28th April 1792.

[Q 59-2, p 346]

SAMUEL KIRKLAND TO COL. JOSEPH BRANT.

KANAWAGEA January 25th 1792.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

I arrived here last Saturday, but much fatigued with my Journey having suffered a little by the extreme cold weather. I had the honor to address you with a lengthy epistle from Oneida the 3d instant in which I acknowledged your favor wrote in the Indian Language from the Grand River, I had the pleasure also of informing you that Colonel Pickering Superintendant of Indian Affairs, has requested that you should accompany a delegation from the Six Nations which he invited to the seat of Government in pursuance of the proposals made in the Treaty held with them at New Town last Summer. I wrote you largely on the subject of your long intended & expected visit to the Eastward which I know you have for some years had in contemplation, I gave you assurances of a kind reception and

my word & honor for your safety. As I have received no returns & hearing that one of the Runners was taken sick at *Faghuawande*, I am apprehensive that Colonel Pickering's invitation Speech accompanied by my letter may not have reached you. To discharge my duty in the trust committed to me, as well as from motives of personal friendship, I am induced to hire Dr. Allen to go as an Express with this to Niagara and on condition you should not be at the Garrison to convey it to you by a trusty hand to the Grand River, that I may receive your answer. I am authorized to assure you a kind reception, and every mark of respect you can desire, at all events I must request a personal interview as there are many matters of importance relative to the poor Indians, a much neglected & injured people in general, upon which I am exceedingly desirous of a conference with you. I shall remain here & in the vicinity till the express returns, that I may hear from you but cannot at the same time but flatter myself that I shall have the pleasure once more of a personal interview.

I am my Dr Friend
with sentiments of esteem & respect
Your obedient humble Servant
(Signed) S. KIRKLAND.

Col. Joseph Brant.

Endorsed: 6.
In Lieut. Govr. Clarke's No. 29, of 28 April 1792.

[Q 59-2, p 353]

COL. A. MC KEE TO SIR JOHN JOHNSON.

FOOT OF THE MIAMIS RAPIDS 28th January 1792.

SIR,

I did myself the honor of writing to you by De Canque in the beginning of December last and at the same time inclosed copies of several official Papers, taken by the Indians in the engagement of the 4th of November, all of which I hope you have long ago received, I have since received several more papers copies of which are prepared, and will be sent with this as I mean to be in Detroit, before the Express goes off—but I consider it my duty to see & know the Temper & disposition of the Indians after their recent Success, that you, Sir, and the Government through you, should be informed thereof; and I have the highest satisfaction in being enabled

to communicate, that they appear more and more attached to the British Interest in due proportion to the extreme hatred and antipathy, which they bear their enemies; they express great satisfaction that the great spirit has permitted them to free their women & children from the apprehensions of any immediate invasion.

The scarcity of Corn among the Shawanese, Miamis, & Delawares, owing to the great consumption when the different Nations assembled at their Villages in the fall, and also to the loss of great part of their crop by the over flowing of the River, has compelled these Tribes to hunt, for the support of their Families, at a time when their services were wanted by the other nations to reduce the forts which were built by their enemies as they advanced, they are however now collecting & I do not doubt of their success, if they go sufficiently strong; they mean also to hide or otherwise secure the cannon which were left on the field of Battle.

In order that they may in future be more collected and less subject to a surprize, they have resolved to abandon their old villages, called the Miamis Towns, and are preparing to fix themselves, within half a day's march of this place and their most earnest request to me is, that a sufficient quantity of Corn may be provided, for the support of their Families until they get crops from the lands, in the vicinity of this place which they mean to plant in the Spring.

On this subject I must request your early attention, as I shall be under the necessity of making a Requisition for five hundred Bushels for their immediate Subsistence & Seed Corn, before I can receive our directions on this head.

By the Information of several deserters from Fort Jefferson, they were in great distress for Provisions, but a supply has since found means to get into the Fort, owing to the Indians being obliged to hunt for the support of their Families.

Should I recollect any thing which you ought to be informed of, and which is omitted in this letter I shall write again on my arrival at Detroit, being with the highest Respect Sir,

Your most obedient & most faithful humble Servant

(Signed) ALEX. McKEE.

Sir John Johnson, Bart.

Endorsed: 7.
In Lieut. Govr. Clarke's No. 29, of 28th April 1791.

[Q 59-2, p 355]

PROCEEDINGS OF A PRIVATE COUNCIL.

Proceedings of a Private Council held with the Chiefs of the Five Nations.

NIAGARA 31st January 1792.

Present

Colonel Gordon, Commanding the Upper Posts.
Lieutenant Colonel Butler, Deputy Agent.
Captain Brant
David Kerr
W. B. Sheehan
Wm Johnston
The Onondago and Cayuga Chiefs & a Chief of the Senecas.
The Fish Carrier, Speaker.

BROTHERS,

We have received a paper from Colonel Pickering whom we met last year at Newton Point, accompanied by a Belt, containing as we are told an Invitation for all our Principal Chiefs to meet Congress at Philadelphia, but as it has always been our custom to ask the advice of the King our Father in all matters of importance, we are therefore come down for that purpose, and hope Colonel Gordon and the Deputy Agent will explain it fully to us.

Colonel Gordon having read the Invitation to them, which was Interpreted by Captain Brant, proceeded to give them his opinion as follows.

BROTHERS,

I have considered with attention this Paper, and agreeable to your request, will give you my advice & opinion on it.

BROTHERS,

You must recollect that some time ago O'Beale, one of the Seneca Chiefs, in a speech to the Thirteen Fires at Philadelphia offered to send some of your children to that place, for the purpose of learning the knowledge of farming, of Smiths & Carpenters work —of Spinning & weaving and of Reading & writing.

BROTHERS,

In answer you received from the President of the United States, to this offer, was in the words following—"You may when you return "from this City to your own Country, mention to your nation my "desire to promote their prosperity, by teaching them the use of "Domestic Animals, and the manner the White People Plough and

"raise much Corn. And if upon Consideration it would be agree-
"able to the nation at large to learn these valuable arts, I will find
"some means of teaching them *at such places within their Country*
"as shall be agreed upon."

BROTHERS,

In a speech delivered a few days afterwards by General Knox, are the words following.

"The President of the United States thinks it will be the best
"mode of teaching you how to raise Corn, *by sending one or two*
"*sober men to reside in your Nation*, with proper Implements of Hus-
"bandry. It will therefore be proper that you shou'd upon a
"consultation appoint a proper place for such persons to till
"the ground. They are not to claim the land on which they shall
"Plough."

"The President of the United States thinks it will be the best
"mode of teaching your children to read and write, *to send a*
"*schoolmaster among you, and not for you to send your children*
"*among us;* he will therefore look out for a proper person for this
"business."

BROTHERS,

You cannot avoid observing that the invitation you have at present received from Colonel Pickering, is directly contrary to what the President and General Knox formerly advised you.

BROTHERS,

As you have asked my opinion and advice on the present business, I cannot avoid telling you, that I am afraid something more is intended by this Invitation, than is expressed in it.

BROTHERS,

When Friends speak and consult together, they should disclose every thing which they think can be of any benefit to either party. I must therefore mention that tho' this Invitaton from Colonel Pickering is dated at Philadelphia, eight days after they had received accounts of the defeat of their army in the Miami Country, yet they take not the least notice of that affair. Your own good sense will point out to you, why they have concealed it, and the ame good se nse will cause you to discover for what purpose so many of Your Chiefs & Sachems are now Invited to Philadelphia.

BROTHERS,

The last time I had the pleasure of seeing you, I told you, that as the King your Father was at Peace with all the world, so he

wished his children the Indians to be at Peace also. You asked my advice on going to the Council at the Painted Post, and as you told me you believ'd your going wou'd assist in bringing about a peace with the American States, and your Brethren to the Westward, I advised you to go, you now know whether the Council held at that time, was of any use in effecting that purpose.

Brothers,

If I thought your going to Philadelphia on the present Invitation, had any reference to so desirable an object, I wou'd advise you to set out immediatety, but this is not mentioned in the Invitation. You must all remember that when Colonel Proctor was at Your Village last year, pressing as many of your Nation as possible, to attend him to Fort Washington, for the purpose as he said, of making Peace, you received at the same time an Invitation from Colonel Pickering to meet him at the Painted Post and a written message from ' Colonel St Clair, *ordering* your young men to join General Butler, and take up the Hatchet against your Western Brethren. You saw these contradictory messages as they ought to be seen, and none of you went with Colonel Proctor.

Brothers,

From all these circumstances and the present state of your affairs, I think it will be imprudent in you to attend this Invitation; In advising you, I have nothing but your Interest in view, which I shall be always happy to promote as far as in my power, and such papers as you bring to us, shall be fairly explained to you.

Brothers,

You will of course determine among yourselves, what to conclude upon.

The Fish Carrier returned Colonel Gordon thanks and proposed deliberating on the subject among themselves.

Niagara 3d February 1792.

The Chiefs having consulted among themselves on the subject of the Invitation, the Fish Carrier explained the Result of it as follows.

Brothers,

We have come to a determination not to accept of the Invitation.

Last fall the Chiefs agreed to hold a general Council by themselves at Buffaloe Creek, about this time, on our affairs, and particularly on the proceedings of our neighbors, but many of our chiefs are yet a

hunting. We have therefore sent a Runner to Genesea, to stop any, shou'd they be inclin'd to go until the Council meets at Buffaloe Creek.

We repeat our thanks for the attention and advice of the King our Father.

(Signed) A. GORDON.

Endorsed: 2.
In Lt. Governor Clarke's No. 29, of 28 April 1792.

[Q 59-2, p 335]

TIMOTHY PICKERING TO THE FIVE NATIONS.

To the Sachems Chiefs & Warriors of the Five Nations.

BROTHERS,

In the last Speech I made to you at the Council Fire at Newton I proposed that a small number of the chiefs should come to Philadelphia after the Corn Harvest to see the Great Chiefs and the Great Council of the United States in order to fix with them the time and manner of introducing among you the knowledge of Farming, of Smiths and Carpenters work, of Spinning & Weaving & of reading & writing.

BROTHERS,

I gave you strong assurances that our Great Chief & Great Council would provide for you, whatever should be necessary for those purposes, that you might become knowing and happy in the abundance of all good things like your brothers of the United States. I told you that my words should be true; and that what I spoke shou'd come from my heart.

BROTHERS,

I now speak to inform you that the great chief and the Great Council of the United States are met together and have kindled a great Council Fire at Philadelphia, and that they are now ready to talk with you, and fulfil all the promises which I made to you in their names. I therefore repeat my Invitation to you to Depute a small number of the chiefs to come to this city for the purpose before mentioned. And because the business is of great importance to you and to your children it may be best that a few more should come than I proposed.

Below are written the names of a number of Chiefs whom I wish to come, because you appeared to put great confidence in them. Those chiefs will be sufficient to manage the business in behalf of the Five Nations and the sooner they get here the better, that there may be full time, by the next Spring to make all the necessary preparations for your assistance.

BROTHERS,

Before I left Newton I spoke to Mr Jones to come with you; for I saw that he was a ready Interpreter; and that you liked to have him by your side. Peter Otsiquetté, the Oneida, can also interpret very well, and I shall ask him to come with you. Mr Kirkland, I expect, will attend you, and provide every thing necessary for you on the way. He is so good as to undertake to have this speech communicated to you.

BROTHERS,

I am impatient for your arrival that you may receive strong proofs that the words I used to you were true—that they came from my heart. And that the United States are faithful to their engagements.

BROTHERS,

Though my Invitation to you, to come to the late treaty at Newton, was general, yet none of the Mohawks attended, and I have never had the pleasure of seeing their Chief Captain Brant. If it should be convenient for him to come with the other Chiefs, whom I have named, I shall be happy to see him—And I am sure that the Great Chief & the Great Council of the United States will receive him as a Friend & Brother.

BROTHERS,

That you may know these are my words and trust to them, with my own hand (which you have often seen) subscribed them with my name, and with the name you gave me, and thereto affixed my seal.

Done at Philadelphia the nineteenth day of December in the sixteenth year of the Independence of the United States.

(Signed) TIMOTHY PICKERING
or
KONNEHSANTY.

[L. S.]

Names of Chiefs.

Ho-nai-ye-wus or the Farmers Brother.
Honey Sauquash
Sau-goo-a-wat-hau or Red Jacket
Fish-ka-a-ga or Little Billy
Ka-au-do-wau-nah or Big Tree
Tau-yon-go-naun-dau-yeh-ta or the Spence Carrier.
Sau-louk-u-wau-nau or Clear Sky
Kau-kih-to-touh or Thorn Tree
O-jea-geh-ta or the Fish Carrier
Skenondon John
Au-gnee-louh-touh-guos or Good Peter
Au-dot-gauh-touhs or Captain John
Sholaghtowan Captain Isaac
Agh-tsigwalisire Tuscarora Chief
Captain Hendrick, Aupaumut } Stockbridge Chief

A true copy. (Signed) A. GORDON.

Indorsed: 3.
In Lieut. Col. Clarke's No. 29, of 28th April 1792.

[Q 59–2, p 342]

COL. A. GORDON TO MAJOR GENERAL A. CLARKE.

Extract of a letter from Colonel Gordon Commanding the Upper Posts to His Excellency Major General Clarke,

dated NIAGARA 5th Feby 1792.

"While Captain Brant was here, a Deputation from the Five Nations resident at Buffaloe Creek arrived.

The accompanying Papers* will explain to your Excellency the cause of their visit, and the measures I pursued, in consequence of their urgent solicitation to give them my advice."

A. C.

Indorsed: 1.
In Lieut. Govr. Clarke's No. 29, of 28th April 1792.

[Q 59–2, p 334]

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*2. Proceedings of a Council. Niagara 31st January, 1792. See page 367.
3. Timothy Pickering to the Five Nations. See page 370.
4. Capt. Joseph Brant to Joseph Chew, S. I. A., dated Grand River, January 19, 1792. See page 364.
5. Samuel Kirkland to Col. Joseph Brant, dated Oneida, January 3, 1792. See page 361.
6. Samuel Kirkland to Col. Joseph Brant, dated Kanawagea, January 25, 1792. See page 364.
7. Col. A. McKee to Sir John Johnson, dated foot of Miamies Rapids, 28 January, 1792. See page 365.

LIEUT. GOV. ALURED CLARKE TO HENRY DUNDAS.

[No. 22.]

Quebec 11th February 1792.

Sir,

After the late defeat of the Troops of the United States in the Western Country, sundry original Letters from General Knox, the Secretary of War, to Generals St Clair and Butler, together with some other papers were found by the Indians and sent into Detroit and have been since transmitted by the officer commanding that Post; I have the honor to inclose for your Information Copies, as per schedule, of such as appear in any wise material. Another sett I shall transmit to Mr Hammond at Philadelphia for his information, in order that he may make such use of them as the King's Interest may require.

The inclosed Extracts of two Letters from Detroit and Niagara contain the latest accounts received from the Upper Posts.

I have the honor to be with
Great respect Sir
Your most obedient
and most faithful
humble Servant
Alured Clarke.

The Right Honble Henry Dundas.

Endorsed: Quebec, 11 Feb. 1792.
Lieut. Govr. Clarke No. 22, R. 14 Apl.
(3 Inclosures) No. 1—Voluminous.

[Q 58–1, p 112]

Schedule of Letters & Papers inclosed in His Excellency Major General Clarke's letter of the 11th Febry 1792, to the Rt. Honble Henry Dundas.

No. 1. Copy of a Letter from H. Knox Secretary to Major General St Clair dated 7th July 1791.

2 Do. from ditto to ditto—21 July, inclosing Duplicate of a Letter of 14th July

3 Do of Mr Thomas Rhea's intelligence.

4 Copy of a letter from H. Knox to Major Genl St Clair dated 21st July.

5 Do from ditto to ditto 4th August

6 Do from ditto to ditto 11th do

7 Do from ditto to ditto 18th do.—

8 Do from His Excellency Genl Washington to Brigr Genl Butler dated 7th April 1791.

9 Do from Tobias Lear Secretary to the President of the United States to Major John Stagg principal clerk in the office of the Secretary at War the 28th July 1791.

10. Copy of a letter from H. Knox Secretary of War to Major General Richard Butler of 10th March 1791.

11 Do from ditto to ditto 21 April

12 Do from ditto to ditto 5 May

13 Do from ditto to ditto 12th do

14 Do from ditto to ditto 19th do

15 Do from ditto to ditto 26th do

16 Do from ditto to ditto 1st June

17 Do from ditto to ditto ditto

18 Do from ditto to ditto 9th do

19 Return of Ordnance & Military Stores Medicines &c forwarded to Pittsburg for the use of the Troops—

20 Return of Troops marched to Fort Pitt 1791.

21 Copy of a Letter from H. Knox Secretary of War to Major General Butler dated 16th June 1791.

22 Copy of a Letter from H. Knox Secretary of War to M. G. Butler dated 14th July 1791.

23 Do from do to do 21 July 1791

24 Do from do to do do

25 Do from do to do 28 do

26 Do from do to do 4 Augt

27 Do from do to do 11th do

28 Do from do to do 18 do

29 Do from do to do 25 do

30 Do from do to do 1 Sept

31 Do from John Stagg Junr Chf Clk War Dept to M. Genl Butler date 23rd May 1791.

32 Do from Do to Do 2d June

33 Do from Do to Do 9 Sept

34 Queries proposed by Capt. Hendrick Aupaumut Chief of the Muh-he-connuk (a Stockbridge) tribe of Indians and answers to those Queries to those questions by Col Pickering Commissr in behalf of the United States dated June 27th 1791.

35 Jacob Slough's certificate of Rhea to Major Genl. Butler &c.

36 Copy of a Letter from M. G. Butler to Lt. Jeffers 26th July 1791.

37 Do from Lt. Jeffers to M. Genl. Butler 16th Augt.

38 Extract of a Speech sent to Cohocto where the Council is held 4 July 1791.

39 Copy of a Letter from D. Bartzchie to Capt. Slough 5 July.

40 Extract of a Letter from Col. Pickering to the Secretary of War 16th July 1791—

41 Copy of a Letter from Col. Wm Darke to Mrs Sarah Darke 1st Nov. 1791.

42 Do from Do to Col. John Morow ditto.

Endorsed: Schedule of Letters & Papers &c.
In Lieut. Gov. Clarke's of 11th Feby. 1792.

[Q 58–1, p 113]

MAJOR JOHN SMITH TO MESSRS. GEO. LEITH & CO.

DEAR SIR, MIAMIS 14th Feby 1792.

Since writing you last I have nothing new to communicate, but that a general discontent seems to prevail among the Indians, as they are made believe they are deceived by the British Government. This discontent proceeds from some inflamatory Speeches that Pacaus gang, or the Delaware King has brought from the Illinois, they say they are now certain that the English have deceived them, & that they will hearken no longer to any promises they may make them. The Speeches with a large belt of Wampum are yet at the River Languille, & will be delivered here some time hence, it was one of the Chiefs from that place who told Lafontaine the secret, he said the time was not far off when the White Elk would be no more, as soon as the Kikapoos came up to go to the Rapids.

The Miamis & Delawares all go to the Illinois in the Spring & I imagine the sooner we are off this ground the better, if not assisted soon, adieu to the Indian Trade; We are under great apprehensions here, & if Government does not take an active part with them, we will be the victims.

P. S. You no doubt may think I am rather credulous, If I am so I'm not alone, to hear their manner of talking at present would stagger the bravest of you in our situation.

A true copy. (Signed) JOHN SMITH

Messrs. Geo Leith & Co. Major 5th Regt.

Endorsed: C. 2-9.
In Lt. Govr. Clarke's No. 30, of 26th May 1792.

[Q 59–2, p 379]

GEO. IRONSIDE TO COL. A. MC KEE.

MIAMIS 14th February 1792.

SIR,

I think it my duty to inform you of what was told Mr Lafontaine by one of the Miamis Chiefs—the River L'Anguille.

The Americans or Spaniards have sent some Speeches by the Wabash; with a very large Belt of Wampum to the Nations in this quarter telling them that they may plainly see that the English are deceiving them in putting them off with vain promises, that they are as much their enemies, under the mask of Friendship, as the Americans, they furnish them with Ammunition & set them on as they would a parcel of Dogs wishing them to destroy each other—while they themselves sit spectators.

The same Miami told Lafontaine that the time was not far off when Wiabimeshaweig would be no more, that they only waited the arrival of the Kikapoos to go to the Rapids & put their designs in execution.

The Delaware King lately from the Illinois is very much discontented, he told in my presence that he was convinced that they were betrayed and would hearken no longer to any promises that the British Government would make them, that every one of his nation would leave this place next summer for the Illinois where they could live in peace; In short a general dissatisfaction reigns among them, & these reports have so inflamed their minds against the English that if they are [not actually assisted soon the consequence] will be they will turn their Tomahawk upon us and the unfortunate Traders will be the first victims of their cruelty.

The above speeches were brought by the Miamis or Delawares from the Mississippi and the Indian told Lafontaine, would be delivered here some time hence.

The Shawanese, I believe, as yet know nothing of it. That there is some [secret affair in agitation is past all doubt & if anything further comes to my knowledge I will inform you of it.

I have the Honor to be &c

(Signed) GEO. IRONSIDE.

Col. McKee.

Endorsed: C. 3—10.
In Lt. Govr. Clarke's No. 30, of 26 May 1792.

[Q 59–2, p 381]

LIEUT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE TO HENRY DUNDAS, SEC'Y.

[No. 4.] QUEBEC Feby 16th 1792.

SIR,

The recent defeat of Mr. St Clair may be productive of beneficial consequences to the Government of Upper Canada, by terminating the war upon equitable terms between the American Indians & the United States; should Mr. Hammond be authorized to offer mediation on the part of Great Britain to effect this desirable purpose, & be able to make it so publickly and so avowedly, that the offer cannot be concealed by Mr. Washington or the Congress from their subjects on the one hand & on the other, that the American Indians may clearly perceive that they have the wishes of Great Britain for their prosperity as far as is consistent with that strict and inviolable neutrality which must invariably regulate her conduct.

The papers which General Clarke will have the honor of transmitting to you will I trust confirm those ideas I have formerly submitted to you relative to the Indians; and that a central force established in the Capital of Upper Canada will be indispensibly necessary, not only to protect the Companies while they shall be employed in opening the more distant communications, but to watch over the American Indians whose affections may be alienated from us by our strict neutrality, or seduced by the unwearied efforts of the subjects of the United States, among whom they principally reside. In particular, should the barrier Forts; Niagara, which as the letters I allude to intimate, commands the affections of the Five Nations, & Detroit, which secures those of the Western Indians be given up to the United States; it is obvious that new arrangements of more considerable force will be necessary to protect the infant colony from incursions of a people who cannot be struck at in their own places of residence without involving in it the question by what right British Troops shall enter into the Territories of the United States? a question, which in the hands of the present governors of the United States would be resolved & enlarged into "quality and magnitude, sufficient to impress that people & the "world at large of the rank injustice & unfairness of such a pro-"cedure" it is to guard against the probability of these Events & as much as possible to prevent them, that I have always wished

for a central force a part of which, the new Corps, must be trained to the peculiar Services the Country requires, & which collaterally, in case it should be determined to preserve the barrier posts may contribute to that end, & this is now become the subject of serious contemplation, since it is proved that Mr. St Clair was to have established "with a strong hand" a post in the vicinity of Detroit upon the Indian Territory, & which both in manner & purpose, according to European politicks would be deemed a most dangerous aggression.

I am very sorry that the not being able to act in Upper Canada either in a Civil or Military Capacity has hitherto prevented me from going into the Government; every report that I have from it is of the most favorable cast;

Your most obt & most hb. St.

J. G. Simcoe.

To the Rt. Honble Henry Dundas, &c.
one of His Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, Whitehall.

Endorsed: Quebec 16th Feb. 1792.
Lieut. Govr. Simcoe No. 4.
R. 14 April. Three Enclosures.

[Q 278, p 44]

CHARLES BAUBIN TO MAJOR JOHN SMITH.

Rapid du Loup 18th February 1792.

Sir,

Allow me to have the honor of informing you of what has happened in our neighborhood. We have in the Miamis Country a number of vagabonds who annoy the Indians by their advice and bad example, exciting them to rob the traders and make them give up their goods for nothing on account of their threats so that the loyal subjects of His Majesty cannot travel in safety as experience shows us. I have this moment been threatened by a man & robbed & I implore your authority so that we may be able to travel in safety. I have the honor to be

Your very humble obedient servant

(Signed) Ch. Baubin.

To Mr. Smith, Major Commanding at Detroit.

[Q 59-2, p 383]

H. KNOX, SEC'Y OF WAR, TO CAPT. JOSEPH BRANT.

Copy of a Letter from General Knox to Captain Brant.

WAR DEPARTMENT, PHILADELPHIA, Feby 25th 1792.

SIR,

Colonel Pickering who had some communications with the Senecas, and others of the Six Nations during the last two years, was duly authorized to invite you to visit this city, in order to consult you upon the best means of civilizing and advancing the happiness of the Indians.

Some Information has been recently received from Mr. Kirkland, intimating your disposition to perform the visit but declining to do it, upon the former invitation as not being sufficiently explicit.

I now repeat to you this invitation, accompanied with a wish that you would repair to this City, which is the seat of the General Government; and I assure you that the President of the United States will be highly gratified by receiving and conversing with a chief of such eminence as you are, on a subject so interesting and important to the human race.

This Invitation is given to you from the fairest motives. The President of the United States is conscious of the purest disposition to promote generally the welfare of the Indians and he flatters himself that proper occasions only are wanting to impress them with the truth of this assertion. He considers your mind more enlightened than theirs, and he has hopes that your mind is filled with a true desire to serve the essential Interests of your Countrymen.

The United States much against the Inclination of the Government, are engaged in hostilities with some of the Western Indians. We on our parts have enter'd into it with reluctance and consider it as a war of necessity, not as it is supposed and industriously propogated by many, for the purpose of accumulating more land, than has been ceded by Treaty with the Indians, since the peace with Great Britain.

We are desirous of bringing it to a conclusion, not from any apprehension as to a favorable result, because by a comparison of Forces, however troublesome a perseverance therein may be to us, it must be utter destruction to the hostile Indians. We are desirous for the sake of humanity of avoiding such a catastrophe.

This is the main business which will be mentioned to you on the part of the United States, and it is an object worthy of the best cultivated head and heart. If you shou'd enter into this view, Mr.

Kirkland has directions to concert with you the most satisfactory mode of your performing the Journey.

The nature of the case will shew the necessity of your coming without delay, if you incline to accept the Invitation.

I am, Sir, With esteem

Your most obedient humble Servant

(Signed) KNOX

Secretary of the Department of War & Indian Affairs.

To Captain Joseph Brant.

Indorsed: A. 1.
In Lt. Govr. Clarke's No. 30. of 26th May 1792.

[Q 59-2, p 362]

MAJOR JOHN SMITH TO COL. A. GORDON.

Extract of a Letter from Major John Smith 5th Regiment to Colonel Andrew Gordon

dated DETROIT 3rd March 1792.

"Little has transpired from the Miami Country since the Action; report again says that Fort Jefferson is evacuated, and that the Americans came with slays to endeavor to bring off their cannon, which they could not discover. The original Instructions from the Secretary at War, to Genl. St. Clair, were brought in last night, they are voluminous, but will be copied for you, to go down by the first vessel, enclosed is a small extract from them."

Endorsed: C. 6. 13.
In Lt. Govr. Clarke's No. 30, of 26 May 1792.

[Q 59-2, p 387]

COL. A. MC KEE TO SIR JOHN JOHNSON.

DETROIT 5th March 1792.

DEAR SIR,

By the Mohawks who attended Hazel hither from the Grand River, and who set out hence this day, I embrace the opportunity of writing to you by them, and acquainting you with the most material circumstances of Indian Affairs in these parts since my last to you.

I received Information a few days ago that Belts were lately sent to the Miamis Nations of very bad tendency towards the English, and that

a Delaware who is stiled a King arrived there with Speeches inviting them to leave the country and go with him to the Ilinois where they can live at peace, to which they seemed to listen, more particularly his own nation, the above speeches have caused great confusion amongst the Indians in general;—

I have in consequence therefore dispatched Captain Elliott to the Miamis to learn the truth of this information and sent corn and other provisions by him to be distributed amongst them.

I have just received by a Scout from the Glaize the Secretary of War's Instructions to Genl St Clair which shall be copied and sent you by the first conveyance, they were got with much difficulty from George White Eyes, who I understand, has a great many more papers which I expect Captain Elliott will bring with him. Burns who accompanied White Eyes was examined by the Indians at their Council & suffered death by the Hatchet, the same Scout brings accounts of the advanced Posts from Fort Washington being evacuated. I have also information of five Chippewas on the south side of the Lake being taken by a party of Senecas & Americans & carried to Fort Pitt.

This is all I have to communicate at present, as soon as an opportunity offers after Capt. Elliott's return, you shall be duly apprised of this intelligence, in the meantime, I am dear Sir

Your most obedient
humble Servant
(Signed) A. McKee.

Sir John Johnson, Bart.

Endorsed: D. 14.
In Lt. Govr. Clarke's No. 30, of 26 May 1792.

[Q 59-2, p 388]

LIEUT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE TO HENRY DUNDAS, SEC'Y.

[No. 5.] Quebec March 10th 1792.

Sir,

I do myself the honor of requesting your explanations & directions upon the authority of the Superintendant General of Indian Affairs.

By the commission of Sir John Johnson, it rather appears to me, that he is meant to be solely responsible to the officer Commanding in chief the Forces in Upper or Lower Canada, but by an extract of your letter of the 16 September 1791 it should appear, that he

was intended by this commission to be subjected "to the Command "& Controul of such officers as His Majesty from time to time shall "think fit to entrust with the *Government* of *either* of those "Provinces.

I am perfectly aware of the reasons which have formerly induced His Majesty's Ministers to appoint, & to continue the office of Superintendant General, & tho' in some respects, many of them are now done away, yet the principal one remains at this particular crisis in greater force than ever; The Influence & authority which that office has necessarily acquired over the minds of the Savages, it is reasonable to expect will be put to the fullest proof. In such a situation of affairs I am by no means desirous of diminishing The responsibility of that office & attaching it to my own, either as Civil Governor, or as Commanding His Majesty's Forces in Upper Canada; but there are instances in which it appears to me, to be proper for the public welfare, That the Superintendant General & those who derive their authority from him, should be subject to the Command of the Civil Government of Upper Canada; and many of those, without doubt occurred to you, Sir, when you wrote the Letter to which I have alluded.

I have therefore to solicit from you in such mode, as you shall deem proper, an explanation upon this subject—and I am very anxious for your directions by the earliest opportunity, in consequence of its appearing to me to be of infinite importance to the prosperity of the colony of Upper Canada to purchase a tract of Land from the Indians of which I shall subjoin a more particular description.

In accomplishing this purchase, of whose advantages the civil Government of Upper Canada must naturally be the best judge, & certainly responsible to His Majesty's Ministers for the propriety of the act, it does not appear to me to be proper, or usual that such Civil Government should be subordinate to the *Officer* who shall command in *Chief* His Majesty's *Forces* in America, but that directions should be issued by its own authority, to the Superintendant General of Indian Affairs to carry into execution Its orders agreeable to the General Spirit of his Instructions and in the customary manner of his own department.

The Land I allude to, is situated on a carrying place from Sturgeon Bay into another part of the Lake Huron, to avoid the doubling of a dangerous point in Lake Huron. I am very sorry that the distance I am from Upper Canada & in truth the very little information that

was intended by this commission to be subjected "to the Command "& Controul of such officers as His Majesty from time to time shall "think fit to entrust with the *Government* of *either* of those "Provinces.

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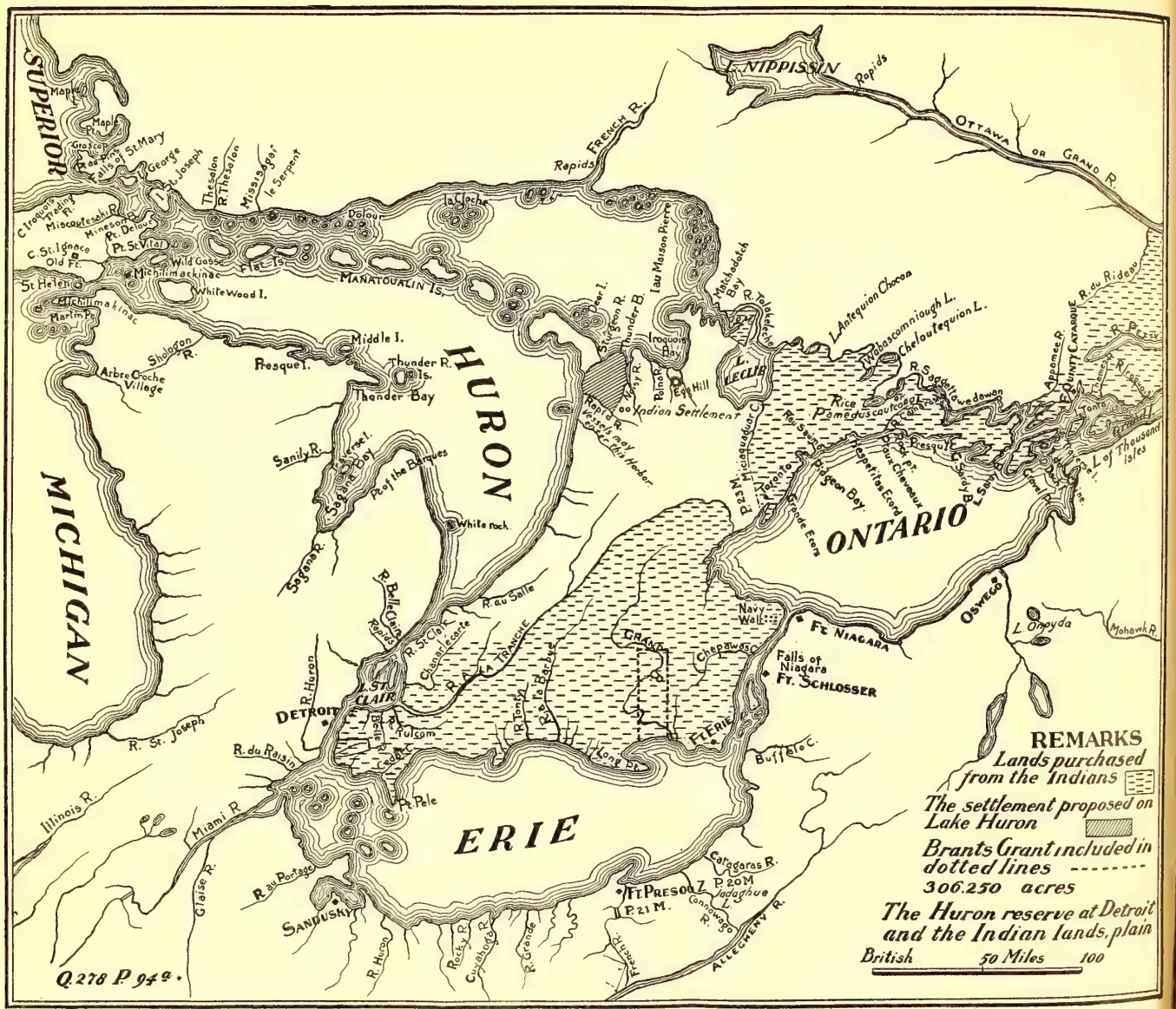
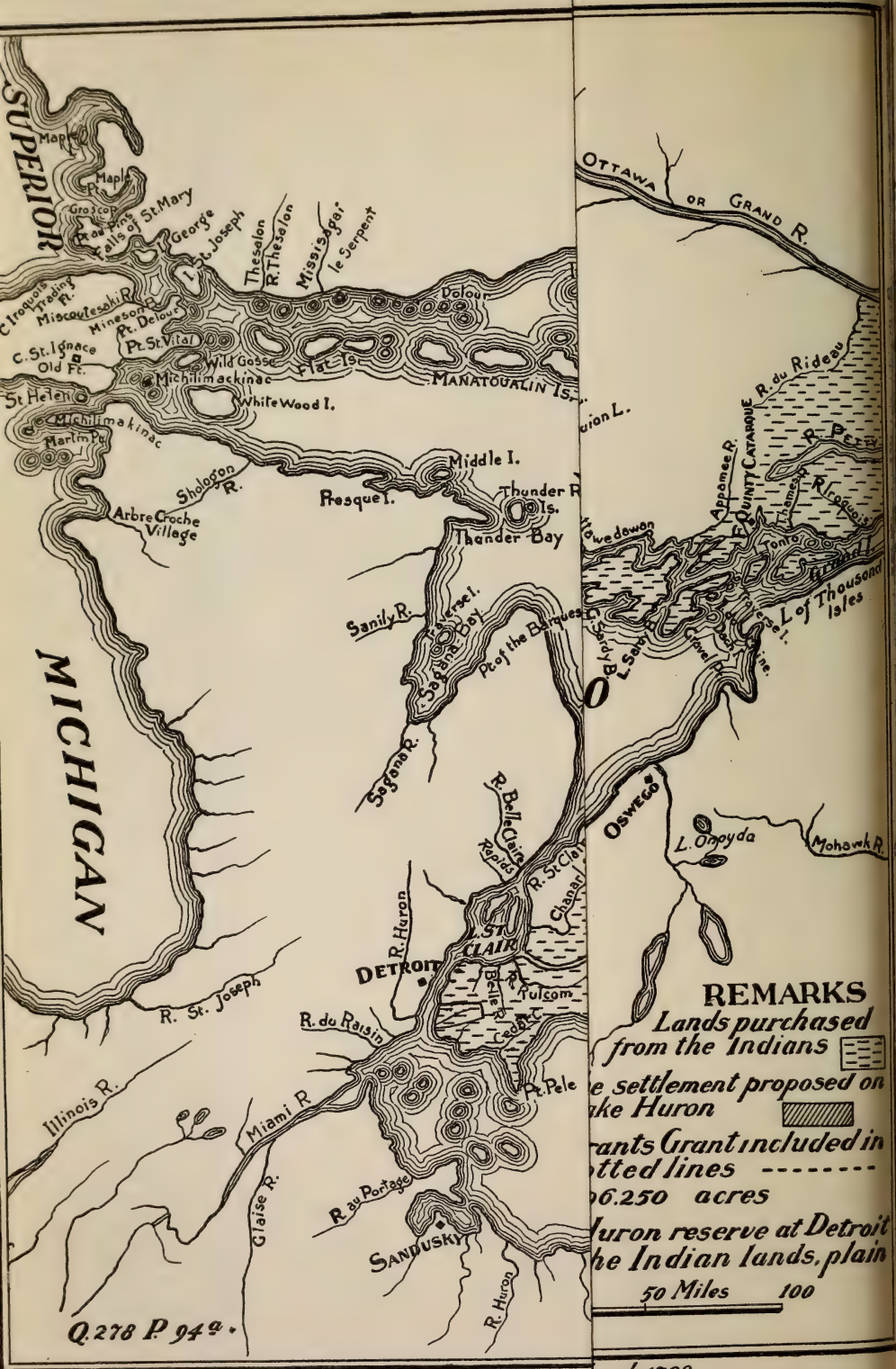


Endorsed – In Lieut. Govr Simcoe's (No 5) of 10th March 1792.

MAP OF UPPER CANADA AND MICHIGAN.


SUPERIOR
MICHIGAN
OTTAWA OR GRAND R.
Maple
Maple
Grosc
Falls of St Mary
St George
St Joseph
Thessalon
R. Thessalon
Mississagai
le Serpent
Iroquois Trading R.
Miscouesaki R.
Mineson
Pt. Delour
Delour
C. St. Ignace
Old Ft.
Pt. St. Vital
Wild Gosse
Flat Is
MANATOUALIN Is.
Michilimackinac
White Wood I.
St Helen
Michilimakinac
Marlin Pt.
Middle I.
Sholagon R.
Resque I.
Thunder R
Is.
Arbre Croche Village
Thunder Bay
Sanily R.
Isle au Sable
Pt of the Barques
Saginaw Bay
Saginaw R.
R. Belle Claire
Rapids
R. St Clair
Channel
L. ST CLAIR
DETROIT
R. Huron
R. St. Joseph
R. Rouge
R. Fulcom
R. du Raisin
Illinois R.
Miami R
Pt. Pele
Glaise R.
R. au Portage
SANDUSKY
R. Huron
Q. 278 P. 94a.
Appomee R.
Quinty
Cataraque
R. du Rideau
R. Petry
Thames R.
R. Iroquois
Towedown
Toronto
L. Sabla
Isle au Chevreuil
L. of Thousand Isles
OSWEGO
L. Onpyda
Mohawk R.
REMARKS
Lands purchased from the Indians
e settlement proposed on
ake Huron
rants Grant included in
otted lines
06.250 acres
Huron reserve at Detroit
he Indian lands, plain
50 Miles 100

arch 1792.

any traders can give, excepting on those particular points in which they are interested, prevent me from offering a more decisive opinion upon the situations in That Country; but I have met with nothing but what confirms me in the propriety of the Plans which I have heretofore submitted to you.

I do myself the Honor of enclosing to you a sketch of part of Upper Canada by which you will see where the Indian Title is extinct by British Purchases & where it exists in its original possessions.

The land which I wish to purchase to form in all views a most desirable Settlement, is distinctly colonied.

I conceive that the present summer will afford a proper opportunity for the accomplishment of This purchase as a number of Indians will necessarily be assembled to receive Their customary presents & will be fully acquainted. That the new Government of Upper Canada will not suffer any Encroachments to be made upon the Lands which they have not sold, but which will be preserved for their comfort and satisfaction; a reservation that in my judgment will be highly advantageous to Upper Canada. I have also marked the Lands which have been promised to Brant and other Indians, They have been surveyed for that purpose & I have given him assurances that it will be the earliest object of my care to fulfill Lord Dorchester's intentions in that respect, I conceive it to be particularly unfortunate that one of the first acts of my Administration will be the Trial of two Indians connected with this Chief on a charge of murder.

I do myself the honor of enclosing a copy of Sir John Johnson's Commission, together with the Extract to which I allude.

I have the honor to be with the utmost respect.

Sir Your most obedient

and faithful Servt.

J. G. Simcoe.

To the Rt. Honble Henry Dundas

one of His Majesty's principal Secretaries of State &c. Whitehall.

Endorsed: Quebec, 10th March 1792.
Lieut. Govr. Simcoe, R. 18 May. No. 5. Three Enclosures.

[Q 278, p 90]

NSERT

OLD-OUT

OR MAP

HERE!

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one of His Majesty's principal Secretaries of State &c. Whitehall.

Endorsed: Quebec, 10th March 1792.
Lieut. Govr. Simcoe, R. 18 May. No. 5. Three Enclosures.

[Q 278, p 90]

HENRY DUNDAS TO LIEUT. GOV. A. CLARKE.

WHITEHALL 16th March 1792.

LIEUT. GOV. CLARKE, SIR,

I transmit you inclosed Copies of Lord Grenville's Letter to Mr Hammond, and of mine to Lord Dorchester, respecting the views of His Majesty's Servants as connected with the present Disputes, subsisting betwixt the Indians & the American States.

You will observe that Mr. Hammond is authorized to propose His Majesty's good offices for the establishment of a permanent Peace between them, on the principle of securing to the latter such a Territory as in those Letters is particularly stated. You will therefore on the Receipt of this Letter lose no time in sending in conjunction with Lieut Governor Simcoe to Mr. Hammond such a Person, & in transmitting from him such Documents as may in the progress of his Negotiation be of the greatest assistance to him, in forming from the relative situations of all the Parties concerned, a proper Judgement & Estimation of the Territory, which it may be proposed to secure to the Indians, and in correctly ascertaining the different boundaries & Limits thereof.

I recommend it to you to entrust Mr. Givens, the Bearer of this Dispatch, to convey such Documents and papers to & from Mr Hammond as may be necessary pending the Negotiation.

The account Lord Dorchester has given to me of Mr. McKee of the Indian Department at Detroit of his local knowledge and Information, and of his intimate acquaintance with the Interests of His Majesty's subjects in that quarter points him out as a proper person to be sent to Mr. Hammond but if any circumstance should deprive you of his services, you will procure such other person, as you may Judge best qualified for the employment.

I am &c (Sgnd) HENRY DUNDAS.

P. S. You will upon consultation with Lieut Govr Simcoe according to your direction, either give Directions for Mr. McKee to come to you from Detroit with such Charts and Documents as may be of service in forming the best opinion on the subject matter of the intended negotiation, or you will transmit by Mr. Givens such Directions & Instructions to Mr. McKee at Detroit as may enable him to go from thence to Philadelphia, should the same be deemed practicable.

H. D.

Endorsed:

Dra^t to Lieut. Governor Clarke, 26 March 1792.

[Q 58–1, p 63]

CAPT. A. GORDON TO CAPT. JOSEPH BRANT.

NIAGARA 20th March 1792.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

The Pacquet which I now send you was brought here by a Doctor Allen from Canadasaga.

I do not know the contents, further than the Bearer tells me; it is a Letter from the Secretary at war of the United States, inviting you to Philadelphia on matters of consequence.

Your own good sense will best dictate the answer you ought to return.

Shou'd it have a reference to the bringing about a Peace with the Western Indians, I cannot conceive that Philadelphia is the place where a conference of so much moment ought to be held; as it is evident none of the Western Indians, whose dearest Interests are concerned in the event can be present, and if any steps are taken by the Six Nations without their concurrence, it is much to be feared it will give rise to Jealousies, which may be attended with disagreeable consequences hereafter.

If the United States have at length seriously determined to do Justice to, and make Peace with the Western Indians, a general council should be convened in some convenient situation, where Deputies from all the Nations concerned, as well as Commissioners on the Part of Great Britain & America can be assembled. The views of all parties would there be clearly defined; an accurate boundary ascertained; past Acts of hostility buried in oblivion, and such measures adopted as would tend to establish permanent peace and friendship, on a solid & equitable basis.

In the many conversations we have had on this subject, we have generally agreed, that from the line of conduct the United States have hitherto pursued, it did not appear they had this object *seriously* in view and I am sorry to observe from the mode of Proceeding on the present occasion, there is but too much reason to Suspect, they have not yet seen their error.

In almost every transaction they have had with the Six Nations during the course of the last two years, there has appeared a Duplicity and Inconsistency, on which it is impossible to put a liberal construction.

The Six Nations, in the present critical situation of affairs with their Western Brethren, ought to be extremely cautious how they involve themselves either one way or another.

Great Britain is at peace with the United States, and it is therefore anxiously wished that her friends the Indians in General, shou'd be so likewise; every advice which has been given to them, had that object in view; and I still hope the period is at no great distance, when this desirable event will be finally accomplished, on equitable Terms, and to the mutual satisfaction of all parties.

I have thus, my dear Friend, been induced to give you my *private* opinion on the present occasion, and I am fully persuaded you will pursue a line of conduct that will deserve the approbation of your Brethren and Friends.

Accept my sincere good wishes, and believe me, with much regard.

Your friend

(Signed) A. GORDON.

To Captain Joseph Brant
Grand River.

P. S. I understand some of the Senecas from Buffaloe Creek, are gone to Philadelphia on Coll Pickerings former invitation, which I am told causes much uneasiness in the Village.

A. G.

Indorsed: A. 2. 3.
In Lieut. Govr. Clarke's No. 30, of 26th May 1792.

[Q 59-2, 365]

LORD DORCHESTER TO HENRY DUNDAS.

LONDON 23d March 1792.

SIR,

I am honored with your letter on the subject of a plan, in the contemplation of His Majesty's Ministers, for putting an end to the present unhappy contests between the American States and the Indians, and for securing a permanent friendship between them, as well as between those States and Great Britain, by the establishment of such boundaries between their respective territories, as shall appear best calculated to answer these important objects.

The principle laid down, "that His Majesty and the American "States, should join in securing exclusively to the Indians a certain "portion of territory lying between, and extending the whole length "of the lines of their respective frontiers, within which both parties "should stipulate not to suffer their subjects to retain or acquire any

"lands whatever," is undoubtedly extremely advisable to be adopted, as far as possible, that is, as far, as there are Indians who have claims to be attended to, and who are capable of occupying the ground, that may be set apart for them.

This is clearly the case with respect to the western country, the immediate object of the present warfare, and also, though perhaps with some exceptions, in regard to that territory, which extends along the Southern and South eastern shore of Lake Ontario, and the upper part of the St. Lawrence.

As to the Western Country, if the Line pointed out by the Indians, as reported in my Letter to Lord Grenville No 102 shall be adopted as the boundary between them and the United States, so that the Country to the North West of it between the Mississippi and the Lakes, shall be secured exclusively to the Indians, and remain neutral ground in respect to Great Britain and the States, peace between them and the Indians will not only be restored immediately, and established upon a solid foundation, but every ground of jealousy between Great Britain & the States, relative to that Country, will be removed & the Trade with the Indians, in regard to both parties, placed upon a fair and equal footing.

From the termination of the line just mentioned, eastward along the Southern and Southeastern shores of Lake Ontario and the Upper part of the St Lawrence, it is difficult here to point out a precise boundary proper to be adopted, because the question relative to these districts, which are not now the object of war, was not brought forward by the deputation which came to Quebec in August last, But though this Country is not the object of the present war, it may become the source of future hostilities between the States and the Indians, unless the just claims and interests of the different nations of that quarter are ascertained, and secured to them by a permanent boundary, in the same manner as those of the more Western nations, alluded to in the preceding article. On this part of the subject I can only recommend, that the sentiments of the different Indian Nations concerned, be consulted, and the general principle, of securing to them an exclusive independent possession of what they are fairly entitled to, applied, upon satisfactory local information.

Thus far the idea of an Indian Carrier may be kept in view, and ought to be carried into execution, as far as circumstances will permit.

In the vicinity of Lake Champlain, and thence down to the sea shore, the condition of the frontier is materially different from that to the Westward, there being no Indians in these districts, who have claims of much importance, or indeed who are capable of occupying any space, that might be secured to them, so as to answer the purpose of a barrier. A continuance of the same benevolence and equity, which the Indians have been accustomed to receive from the King's Government, will be sufficient to secure the future comfort and tranquillity of the tribes, which are to be found in these lower districts.

With respect to the boundary on Lake Champlain I beg leave to refer to the lines pointed out in the plans and report of Captain Mann, which I had the honor to deliver some time ago, and of which report a duplicate, together with two maps, is now inclosed. I conceive the line including Grande Isle, or should that not be attainable, at least the other line which includes Long Island and Isle la Motte, indispensible to the security of His Majesty's Dominions in that quarter where they are undoutedly more valuable than in any other. And as the circumstances of this frontier do not admit of an Indian barrier it will be necessary, that the territory up to that line, which shall be agreed upon, constitute a part of the Royal dominions, so as to enable His Majesty to strengthen its population, and to continue the present, or establish any other posts in that quarter, which He may think expedient.

The present description of the more eastern parts of our boundaries down to the river St. Croix, is too general for any practical purpose.

I should recommend, whenever the general description of the proposed boundary between the States and the Indians, as well as between the States and Great Britain, shall be agreed upon, that all doubtful intervals be ascertained, as soon as may be convenient, by, or on the report of Commissioners, who ought upon the spot to choose such strong natural features of the Country, corresponding as nearly as possible with the general description, as they may find best calculated to form a distinct boundary, and to obviate all sources of future misunderstandings.

The wisdom & utility of this system I should hope would be so evident to the good sense of the United States, as to conquer every difficulty on their part.

The Posts upon Lake Champlain, although essential to the safety of His Majesty's Dominions, are so unimportant to the United States, for any other purposes than those of invasion and smuggling, that the friendly disposition manifested by that country well warrants the expectation, that no difficulties will arise respecting the proposed boundary in that quarter, which includes Grande Isle, while on the other hand His Majesty cannot give a stronger proof either to the Indians or the United States, of the disinterested liberality of His motives, than the eventual sacrifice, to which he consents, of all his posts in the Western Country, if that shall be necessary for the accomplishment of His benevolent objects.

This cession, if it shall take place will no doubt occasion considerable inconveniences to the Kings' subjects. If the West side of the Strait at Detroit is to become part of this neutral country, in which the subjects of His Majesty are not to retain any landed property, the settlers in that quarter will be deprived of their possessions, and of course become objects for the future consideration of the King's government, and if the post of Michilimakinac is to be abandoned, the Indian Trade will lose its grand deposit and rendezvous, for which it may be difficult to find a substitute of equal convenience. Many other disadvantages will naturally attend the cession of these two Posts, of Michilimakinac and Detroit, as well as that of the Forts Niagara, Schlosser and Ontario. These circumstances however are not mentioned as objections to the system, but merely as objects of proper attention.

I am fully convinced, that no inconveniences whatever, that may be incident to the cession of any of the posts in the western country, are of weight sufficient to set aside a measure of such evident importance as this is, to the preservation of peace, and the great interests of all the parties concerned.

I am with much respect
and esteem, Sir,
Your most obedient
and most humble Servant
DORCHESTER.

The Right Honl. Henry Dundas, &ca &ca &ca.

Endorsed: London, March 23, 1792.
Lord Dorchester. R. March 24.

[Q 58-1, p 86]

H. KNOX, SEC'Y OF WAR, TO CAPT. ALEXANDER TRUEMAN.

To Captain Alexander Trueman of the first United States Regiment.

WAR DEPARTMENT April 3rd 1792.

SIR,

Confiding in your Judgment and abilities to execute the mission herein designated, I do hereby request you in the name of the President of the United States, to enter upon the duties thereof, with all possible dispatch.

You will therefore, immediately repair to Pittsburg. I have herewith given you an order to Captain Hughes to furnish you with an Escort, and a Boat, to transport you to Fort Washington. On your arrival at that place, you will disclose to Lieut. Colonel Commandt Wilkinson, the objects of your mission, and concert with him the proper means of carrying it into execution.

I have directed him, in a Letter herewith delivered you, to afford you all possible facility, in pursuance of your orders.

I have herewith also delivered you a speech for the Western Indians, with which you will repair to the Miami Village, accompanied by such Indians, men or women, or both, as shall be judged best by you, and Lieut Colonel Commandt Wilkinson. This Speech is also accompanied by a White belt, It will be of the highest importance that you should have an Interpreter, capable of fully explaining your Ideas.

You will observe that the Speech is designed to effect a peace with the hostile Indians on the terms of humanity & Justice. Your language must all therefore be to the same effect.

As the Confederacy of Indians is supposed to be extensive, it will require time to bring your negotiations to a favourable issue. Your patience, your fortitude, and your knowledge of the human character, will all be tested by the objects of your mission.

It may be said on all occasions, and the issue will justify the assertion, that nothing is more desired than to remove all causes of discontent and to establish a peace upon a firm foundation.

But that in order to bring about an event, so pregnant with happiness to the Indians, they must instantly abstain from all further hostilities, recall their parties, if they have any out, as we shall do, and let every thing be settled amicably.

If the Chiefs of the hostile Tribes can be induced to repair here, it is conceived, the view of the population of the country, and the

improvements of all sorts, will exhibit to their minds, in strong colors the futility of their continuing the war, as a further inducement to repairing here, presents of Clothing and Silver Ornaments may be stipulated. The Creek Treaty, the Treaty with the Cherokees, and the present manner in which the deputation of the Six Nations now in this City, are treated may be cited as strong proofs of the pacific and liberal intentions of the General Government.

Impressed verbally as you have been of the importance of a Peace being concluded with the hostile Indians, little more *need* to be added, I shall only say that it is an event, most devoutly desired, by the President of the United States, and the people generally. If you should be the Instrument of effecting it, much personal reputation and honor will be the result, besides which I am authorized by the President of the United States, that your expences, while in the employment shall be supported by the Public, and that you shall be liberally rewarded in a pecuniary manner.

It will be important that you take with you some whites, or other persons, to serve as messengers between you and the Commanding officer, so that he may be informed, & through him, me, of your prospects from time to time. If you should succeed, you will please to accompany the chiefs to this place; but if you should fail, you will join the Army under the Commanding Officer, after stating in the most ample manner, the progress & result of your proceedings.

H. Knox
Secy of War.

Indorsed: C.
In Lt. Col. England's of 5th July 1792. Transmitted.
In Lt. Govr. Clarke's No. 46, of 29 Sepr. 1792.

[Q 61–1, p 146]

SPEECH OF JAMES WILKINSON TO THE INDIANS.

To the Miami, Shawanese, Delaware, Tawa, Wyandot, Pottawatamie, Huron and the Chippeway and all other Nations of Red People, living on the waters of the Ohio, Mississippi and the Great Lakes, now at war with the United States of America.

Sachems, Chiefs & Warriors,

Open your Ears, listen and observe well, Our great chief and father George Washington who presides, and is Head man at the Great Council Fire of the United States, has ordered me to send you this

talk, with the earnest hope that it may clear away the mist from your eyes, and incline your hearts to bury the hatchet.

CHIEFS AND WARRIORS,

Attend to this Talk, let it sink deep into your minds, and lead you to the Great Council Fire of peace, where your complaints will be heard; your wrongs, if you have been wronged, will be redressed, and the paths will be again opened—that all the red people and the white people who live on this Island, may pass and repass without fear or danger. For should you shut your ears against this good talk, if you turn away, from the voice of peace, and are deaf to the dictates of reason and of Justice—Then the Hatchet must be uplifted. The war must rage, and your blood, and our blood, must stream, until your Nations are exhausted, for the warriors of the United States number like the Trees in the woods, their meat & their bread grow in the fields and upon their farms, and they make arms and ammunition for their own use; what then can prevent them in the end from conquering the Indian Nations—who are scattered over a Country many hundred miles in extent, who depend on the forests and the casualties of the hunt for their subsistence and procure their arms and ammunition from a distant nation.

Bad men may tell you that the United States send you this talk from Fear—Do not believe them and be cautious what you receive for the truth—unless spoken by wise and good men. Shut your Ears against false Rumors and listen not to evil Councillors. The Chiefs of the United States know no fear, they who have baffled and have driven out of their Lands the numerous Armies of a Great King can never be afraid of your little Tribes. No! the Great Chief of all our Councils in making to you this brotherly offer, is moved by Humanity, by a love of peace, and an earnest wish to take a fast hold of the Chain of Friendship. Now, should you refuse to join your hands in this chain and be obstinate in holding up the Hatchet, the Great Spirit will bear witness, if we must have war, that it is your own wanton and unprovoked seeking, for the United States desire nothing more sincerely than to make peace with you, upon terms of Justice and moderation, they do not desire to encroach upon, or to set up a claim to any of your lands, which have not been purchased by fair Treaty, and particularly the Treaty of Muskingum, why then should the red people and the white people quarrel & fight? The red people cannot wish

to reclaim what they have sold, and have received payment for, and the white people desire nothing more than this, with peaceful possession.

The United States do not wish to conquer or extirpate the Indian Nations, altho they know they possess the power, but on the contrary are desirous to hear their complaints, to redress the injuries they may have received, and to right the wrongs under which they may labor:—In proof of their sincerity, Hostilities have been suspended on the part of the United States agreeably to the orders annexed to this Talk, and in less time than two moons from this day, a great man will go forward to the Towns from this place with a good talk from our head Chief and Father George Washington.

CHIEFS AND WARRIORS,

You fought us like good warriors last Fall; you slew a great number of our big Captains, and gained a great Victory,—But let not that make you proud, and turn your hearts to war, for were you to destroy a second, a third, a fourth, or a tenth army, the Eleventh would soon be raised to overwhelm you.

If your hearts are for peace, let your war parties be called in, send two or three of your Chiefs with two of my young men to this place, without delay, and keep the third with you, until your own chiefs return, with the great Man, and the good talk, which you will soon receive from our father Washington.

Given under my hand & Seal of arms at Fort Washington the third day of April, in the year of [L. S.] our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety-two, and of the independancy of the United States the Sixteenth.

(Signed) JA. WILKINSON
Commanding officer of the Troops of the United States in the Western Department.

Witness, Caleb Swan.
(Signed) SAML COLESWORTH, JUNR.

Indorsed:
In Lt. Govr. Clarke's No. 31, of 13 June 1792.

SPEECH OF H. KNOX, SEC'Y OF WAR, TO THE INDIANS.

To all the Sachems and Warriors of the Tribes inhabiting the Miami River, of Lake Erie, and the Waters of the Wabash River, the Wyandots, Delawares, Ottawas, Chippewas, Pottiwatamas and all other Tribes residing to the Southward of the Lakes East of the Mississippi, and to the Northward of the River Ohio.

BROTHERS,

The President of the United States, General Washington, the great Chief of the Nation speaks to you by this Address. Summon therefore your utmost powers of attention and hear the important things which shall be spoken to you concerning your future welfare, and after having heard and well understood all things, invoke the Great Spirit above, to give you due deliberation and wisdom to decide upon a Line of conduct that shall best promote your happiness and the happiness of your children, and perpetuate you and them on the land of your forefathers.

BROTHERS,

The President of the United States entertains the opinion, that the War which exists is founded in error, and mistake on your part. That you believe the United States want to deprive you of your Lands, and drive you out of the Country. Be assured, this is not so—On the contrary that we should be greatly gratified with the opportunity of imparting to you all the blessings of civilized life, of teaching you to cultivate the earth and raise Corn, to raise Oxen sheep and other domestic animals, to build comfortable houses and to educate your children, so as ever to dwell upon the Land.

BROTHERS,

The President of the United States requests you to take this subject into your serious consideration, and to reflect how abundantly more it will be for your Interest, to be at peace with the United States, and to receive all the benefits thereof, than to continue a war, which however flattering it may be to you for a moment, must in the end prove ruinous.

This desire of peace has not arisen in consequence of the late defeat of the Troops under Major General St Clair, because in the beginning of last year a similar message was sent you by Colonel Proctor, but who was prevented from reaching you by some unaccountable difficulties. All the Senekas at Buffaloe Creek can witness for the truth of this assertion, and he held during the month

of April last long conferences with them, to devise means of getting to you with safety.

War at all times is a dreadful Evil to those who are engaged therein, and more particularly so, when a few people engage to act against such numbers as the people of the United States.

BROTHERS,

Do not suffer the advantages you have gained to mislead your judgement, and to influence you to continue the war, but reflect on the destructive consequences which must attend such a measure.

The President of the United States is highly desirous of seeing a number of your principal Chiefs, and convincing you in person how much he wishes to avoid the evils of war for your sake, and for the sake of humanity.

Consult therefore on the great object of peace, call in your parties, and enjoin a cessation of all further depredations, and as many of the principal chiefs as shall choose, repair to Philadelphia, the seat of the General government; and there make a peace founded on principles of justice and humanity. Remember that no additional lands will be required of you, or any other Tribe, to those that have been ceded by former treaties, particularly by the Tribes that had a right to make the Treaty of Muskingum in the year 1789.

But if any of your Tribes can prove that you have a fair right to any lands comprehended by the said Treaty, and have not been compensated therefor, you shall receive full satisfaction upon that head.

The chiefs you send shall be safely escorted to this city and shall be well fed, and provided with all things for their Journey, and the faith of the United States is hereby pledged to you, for the true and liberal performance of every thing herein contained and suggested, and all this is confirmed in your manner, by the great White Belt hereunto attached.

Captain Trueman the bearer will shew you the treaties which the United States have made with the powerful Tribes of Indians South of the Ohio, the Creeks, the Cherokees, Chickasaws, and Choctaws, you will there have the most decisive proof of the Justice and liberality of the United States towards the Indian Tribes.

At present there is in the City of Philadelphia, a Deputation of fifty of the principal Chiefs of the five Nations, Tuscaroras, Onandagas, and Senekas, were you to see with your own eyes the kind manner in which these Chiefs are treated, you would never more

think of lifting the Hatchet against the United States, who are desirous of being your best friends.

Come there & be convinced for yourselves of the beneficence of General Washington, the great Chief of the United States, and afterwards return and spread the glad tidings of peace and prosperity of the Indians to the setting sun.

Given in the City of Philadelphia, this fourth day of April, in the year of our Lord one Thousand seven hundred and ninety-two.

By direction of the President of the United States.

H. KNOX

Secretary for the Department of War & Director of Indian Affairs.

Indorsed: D.
In Lt. Col. England's of 5 July 1792.
Transmitted
In Lt. Govr. Clarke's No. 46, of 29 Sep. 92.

[Q 61-1, p 150]

MAJ. JOHN BUTLER TO COL. A. GORDON.

NASSAU 18th April 1792.

SIR,

I received your letter of the 16th Instant, and have to inform you in answer, that the Onondago Chief has gone to the Grand River to look for a place to settle upon agreeable to an invitation he had received from the chiefs at that place; and that many of the Cayugas intend doing the same.

As to what passed between Captain Brant and the Tuscarora when here, I was not present, and therefore have it not in my power to give you any Information on that head.

I should have answered your letter sooner, but waited the arrival of the Indians, who were coming down on that business, and only came here last night.

I am Sir

Your most humble servant

(Signed) JOHN BUTLER.

Col. Gordon, 26th Regt.
Commanding the Upper Posts.

Indorsed: C. 2. 6.
In Lt. Govr. Clarke's No. 30, of 26th May 1792,

[Q 59-2 p 375]

INDIAN SPEECH.

Substance of a Speech made at Niagara by Kayondanayeu the Onondago Chief, as related by him to Lt. Colonel Butler, the 18th April 1792.

Present

Captain Brant & the Chiefs of the Grand River.
The Chiefs from Buffaloe Creek.

Brothers,

(Kayondanayeu Speaker.)

At present the heirs of three of our greatest Forefathers, reside at the Grand River and the greatest part of our nations is at Buffaloe Creek, where we are only upon sufferings, our Nation and the Cayugas have sold their lands some time ago, and the Senecas look upon the remaining part of the Six Nation Country as their own, many of that Nation are supposed to be in the American Interest, and should they sell or dispose of it, no Emolument will arise to us. The King our Father has given us Lands at the Grand River, and as the Council Fire of the Six Nations has always been established in the Onondago Nation, and as we can call the Lands at the Grand River our own, we will remove the Council Fire to that place, and recommend all our Brethren to remove early in the Spring, as all public business will in future be transacted there.

Sir,

This is the substance of what the foregoing Chief related to me to day, before which I had not the least intimation of the Council he mentions; he also mentions that about Twenty Onondago and Twelve Cayuga families are prepared to remove to the Grand River, and that he came down to ask the advice of the commanding officer and myself upon the occasion.

I told him that my orders were to discourage any thing of the kind, and that yours, I was certain were the same;

I therefore advised them to remain where they were at present and as we expected a Governor soon who perhaps might have Instructions concerning them.

I hope this answer meets your approbation and am

Sir
Your most obedient and
most humble Servant
(Signed) John Butler, Agent.

N. B. The Chief agreed to wait at Buffaloe Creek with his people until the Governor's arrival and their Chiefs from Congress.

Present WM. JOHNSTON, Interpreter.

Indorsed: C. 1. 5.
In Lt. Govr. Clarke's No. 30, of 26th May 1792.

[Q 59-2, p 372]

CAPT. A. GORDON TO MAJOR GENERAL CLARKE.

NIAGARA 19th April 1792.

SIR,

Since I had the honor to address your Excellency under date 9th February Captain Brant has received an official letter by a special messenger from Major General Knox a copy of which marked No 1 forms a paper in this dispatch.*

When the letter arrived here Captain Brant was at the Grand River; and as it was not judg'd proper the Bearer of it shou'd be permitted to visit that part of the Country, I directed it should be forwarded by the Agent for Indian Affairs.

The Messenger having informed me, the letter contained a pressing solicitation to attend a council at Philadelphia, I conceived it my duty to offer my opinion to Capt. Brant on the subject, and under that impression I wrote him a friendly Letter No 2 is herewith inclosed.

In the course of a few days Capt. Brant arrived at this Post, and sent off an answer to General Knox, in which he civily declined visiting Philadelphia at present, and assigns some reasons for so doing. I did not ask for a copy of his letter as he proposed forwarding one to the Superintendant General who will of course lay it before Your Excellency.

There were some other particulars which occurred on this occasion I cou'd wish to represent to Your Excellency, but as I think them of too delicate a nature to convey through the channel of an official dispatch, I have to request the permission of Your Excellency to communicate them in a private letter.

I assumed the liberty to inform the Gentleman who was the bearer of General Knox's letter, that it would be expected in future, all messages, or letters of a public concern, addressed to any person living within the Jurisdiction, and under the protection

* Published on page 379.

of the British Government, shou'd be conveyed either through His Britannic Majesty's minister, resident at Philadelphia, His Excellency the commander in Chief of His Majesty's Forces in the Province of Canada, or the senior officer at the Post to which such messages, or letters had a reference.

To the Military Secretary I have the honor to refer your Excellency for the latest dispatches from Detroit, and such other matters as have occurred since the return of the Winter Express, His Majesty's armed Sloop the Caldwell having passed the winter at this Post sails to morrow for Kingston.

I have the honor to be,
with the most perfect respect
Sir
Your Excellency's
most obedient
humble Servant
(Signed) A. GORDON.

His Excellency Major General Clarke.

Indorsed: A. 1.
In Lieut. Govr. Clarke's No. 30, of 26th May 1792.

[Q 59-2, p 359]

CAPT. A. GORDON TO FRANCIS LA MAISTRE.

NIAGARA 19th April 1792.

SIR,

You will please inform His Excellency the Commander in Chief that some time about the middle of last month a deputation from the Tuscarora Indians settled in the Genesee Country, arrived at this post.

The Purport of their visit was, to state, that the Americans were insisting they, or some Oneida Families who reside in the same village, shou'd retire to the old Settlement on the Mohawk River, with the design of removing them entirely from all influence of the British Government.

That the Oneidas (after repeated applications) having been refused permission to settle on the Lands, granted by Government on the Grand River, had at length yielded to the solicitations of the American Agents and agreed to retire. The Tuscaroras were of a different

opinion and wou'd give no answer until they knew for certain, what resource they had to expect from us.

Both Lieut Colonel Butler and me, being precluded holding out any encouragement to them on this subject, as Captain Brant was in the neighborhood we agreed the Deputies shou'd apply to him.

Captain Brant was in full possession of Lord Dorchester's Commands, and the Instructions of the Superintendant General, on former applications of a similar nature.

The accompanying communication from Lieut Col. Butler, affords all the Information I have yet received on the subject.

From the different papers which accompany this dispatch, there are strong grounds to apprehend, that if some decided interference on the part of government is not speedily adopted, all Influence with the Indians (excepting those immediately within our limits) will be irrecoverably lost.

By an Indian Trader, who resides at Buffaloe Creek, I have this day been informed, that the Americans are employed in building a large Fort at Presqu' Isle on Lake Erie, and another at Casaway-gau; that O'Beale (the Corn Planter) a principal Seneca Chief who since the conclusion of the late war, appeared to have taken a decided part with the Americans, has of late not shewn so warm an attachment to their cause; and positively refused to attend a Council now sitting at Philadelphia; and to which many of his Nation from Buffaloe Creek had gone, notwithstanding their application to me on that subject, as stated in my letter, to His Excellency the Commander in Chief under date the 5th of last February.

I have the honor to be
with great regard
Sir
Your most obedient
humble Servant
(Signed) A. Gordon.

F. LeMaistre, Esqr.
M. S.
Head Quarters.

Indorsed: B. 4.
In Lieut. Govr. Clarke's No. 30, of 26th May 1792.

[Q 59-2, p 369]

CAPT. A. GORDON TO FRANCIS LE MAISTRE.

NIAGARA 19th April 1792.

SIR,

Since the return of the Winter Express, which conveyed the last Intelligence from this Post, some Indians who attended Mr. Haziel to Detroit brought the accompanying paper back marked No. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, & 6 which you will please lay before His Excellency the Commander in Chief, being the latest Official Dispatches from that Quarter.

I have the honor to be
with great regard
Sir
Your most obedient
humble Servant
(Signed) A. GORDON.

Francis LeMaistre, Esqr.
M. S.
Head Quarters.

Indorsed: C. 7.
In Lt. Govr. Clarke's No. 30, of 26th May 1792.

[Q 59-2, p 376]

MESSAGE FROM CHIEFS AT THE GLAIZE.

FATHER,

We cannot lose the opportunity now offered to us by Capt Elliott, whom you sent to visit us, to tell you that we and our women & children are almost starving for want of Provisions.

The over-flowing of the River last summer destroyed a great part of our Corn-Fields, & our being obliged to feed our friends, when they came to our assistance last fall, against our common enemy has exhausted all we had.

We are very sensible of the goodness of our Father at Detroit, who last year supported our Families when they had nothing to eat, and we hope now, for the same consideration, our situation as Capt. Elliott can well inform you, being rather worse, as we are not able to hunt on account of the deep snow upon the ground.

FATHER,

If you will send us some Corn to the Foot of the Rapids, our women can easily bring it from thence, otherwise we must come to Detroit, that you may see our starving condition, and we are sure then you will not suffer us to perish in your sight.

We also request that our annual supplies may be sent at the same time, at least the Powder & Lead, that we may be able to hunt towards the support of our families as soon as the snow's off the ground.

A true copy. (Signed) JOHN SMITH
Major 5th Regt.

Delivered with Strings of Wampum in Council with the Chiefs at The Glaize.

Indorsed: C. 1. 8.
In Lt. Govr. Clarke's No. 30, of 26th May 1792.

[Q 59–2, p 377]

MEMORIAL OF MONTREAL MERCHANTS RESPECTING TRADE.

[No. 2.*]

When we last had the honor of addressing your Excellency, the time was so short in consequence of Captain Stevenson's immediate departure, that it was impossible to give the subject that due deliberation which its importance merited. We therefore again presume to apply, conceiving you the proper channel through which to communicate our suggestions and reflections. If any of them should appear in your opinion deserving of it, we request that you will have the goodness to transmit either copies or Extracts, as may be most expedient, both to the minister at home, and the Plenipotentiary at Philadelphia. By this means, should any of our remarks, be worthy of attention, there will be a facility of reference, from one to the other on that head. Upon a re-perusal of what we before communicated, we see nothing therein that we would wish to retract or alter on the contrary the more the subject is considered the more evident it appears to us that no true efficient and at the same time permanent either military or commer-

*For No. 1, see page 338.

cial protection for these Provinces (but particularly Upper Canada) can be had, but by holding possession of the Upper Posts. Many are the arguments upon which our right to maintain them may be supported. We conceive that the Country ceding Territory, has a right to the most liberal construction where an ambiguity happens in a Treaty, and a strict fulfilment of the Spirit of the Stipulations agreed to on the other side, to induce such cession. That America has never complied with the spirit of the Treaty regarding the Loyalists, or the positive letter of it regarding British Merchants, is so notorious as hardly to require a proof. It is true Congress in the part respecting the Loyalists, sheltering themselves under want of power, were contented with making sham recommendations which were never meant by them to have or at least certainly never *had* any effect. British Merchants were prevented from recovery of bona fide Debts by positive Laws in many of the States. British subjects were insulted in coming to look for their properties under the faith of the Treaty. Others were cited to receive payments in depreciated paper, in short it is useless to go on enumerating the many instances of evasion and direct infraction. Congress having now been invested with additional powers, can have no reasonable ground for refusing a fulfilment of the Treaty, in its most liberal construction and extent—but as some parts of it are now impossible to be specifically complied with, it remains for them to grant a pecuniary indemnification to those individuals who have suffered by the delay of fulfilment—As the quantum of this indemnification cannot be easily ascertained, there can be no commutation of it so proper, as the right to retain the Territory originally ceded for the purpose of obtaining the stipulations in question. Even upon this ground America would be a gainer beyond what she ought, because had we stood upon the *uti possidetis* New York would now be in Our possession. As it is, they have obtained that peace with out any part of the equivalent they promised in return. We conceive that neither pride nor Justice of our Country can be satisfied without obtaining a recompense to the suffering creditors of American Debtors—and as its benevolence has been so nobly exerted in behalf of the suffering Loyalists, we have the more extensive confidence on this head. As it is not for us to penetrate into the Secrets or views of Government, so we know not what events may arise in the course of negotiation. Hopeful of the best (our interests being so deeply at stake) fearful of the worst, we were led to pursue the

subject under the possible alternative of relinquishing part of the territory ceded, but still in our possession. We cannot therefore sufficiently express the importance and propriety that we conceive are attached to the disputing the ground by negotiation, inch by inch, and for that reason we pointed out several Lines of Demarcation, remarking what each would give away, and what each retain of the Indian Trade. But should the issue unhappily terminate in a political impossibility to regain any part of the improvident cession by the late Treaty of Peace, it then becomes a question of much moment. What best possible measure could be pursued under such untoward circumstances, so as to give the greatest security to the remaining part that still would be our own, and a participation in that which then would be out of Our Limits. This is the principal object of the present representation to your Excellency as ideas have occurred since our last that did not then strike us, indeed we were then so much convinced in the first place that the *delivery* of the posts could not happen, and in the second, that if for reasons unknown to us it should, the idea overwhelmed our minds with the prospect of such certain ruin to the most valuable commerce of these provinces, has prevented our observing what best modification could be proposed, so as to avert part of the unhappy consequences.

In seriously reflecting since on this subject, a thought occurred to us worth consideration vizt:—how far a proposal of neutrality or reciprocity of Trade with the Indians inhabiting *within the limits of each*, might be productive of their agreeing to an extension of our boundary; and if it had not that desirable effect, whether the advantages or disadvantages commercially considered, of same to us (either under an extension, or as the line now is marked by the Treaty) would preponderate.

As to the first question, we think that after every other ground fails, this would be a most probable means of inducing a new Line of Demarcation on the part of the Americans; because if the Indian Commerce is their object, this presents a share of it to them under such an open and liberal aspect, as would not fail having some operation on their minds in making them wave the right of a Territory, the military possession of which would entail expence upon them and as this would give an appearance of some advantage without the expence of posts, and the necessity of a standing Army to occupy them (a measure obnoxious to many amongst them) they might catch

at the bait. This idea might also stimulate them to ask our mediation in their contest with the Indians, an event that could not fail being favorable to the views of Great Britain—because if a new Line was not obtained immediately to *her* but as to the Indians, it would circuitously operate in *her* favour, as the natives would even have more confidence in *her* than them—It is a matter of immense magnitude that, according to the Spirit of the late Treaty we should obtain a practicable communication with the Mississippi—not only on account of a participation in the Indian Trade on this side, but as opening to us new Sources of it on the west side of that River which are capable of being explored and greatly extended and in which this Country would have no rival but the Spaniards who hitherto have not attempted excluding us from any of the Western Rivers but the Missouri. Thus some recompence for the Sacrifices of Indian Trade, beyond this line of Communication—A Communication with the Mississippi was certainly intended by the Treaty, or why stipulate for mutual navigation thereon—This last being expressly mentioned, carries at any rate by implication the right of a practicable access to it. If one man sells another a field situated in the middle of his grounds the right of ingress and egress unquestionably follows as a necessary consequence.

We have before observed that there are only three usefully practicable routes of communication with that River vizt. by the Miamis & Ouabache, Chicago & Illinois, and Fox & Ouisconsing Rivers. It is true that some of the Rivers which fall into the bottom of Lake Superior, head near water Courses, which descend into the Mississippi but these admitting only of very small Bark Canoes, cannot be extensively useful, and would *very much better the Trade* by being confined to them. The other routes are the main objects for Lines of boundary and communication.

On considering the second question, vizt, what our relative situation would be compared with the Americans, so far as respects the prospects of trading with Indians by each under the idea of a neutral reciprocity on that point, we think the advantages would be on our side. This Country would have Capital, long experience, the well adapted habits of the common people that must necessarily be employed in the menial offices of this Trade, and the prepossession of the Natives in our favor which could hardly fail assuring us a superiority. It is true, that when previous to the late war, the route by the Mohawk was equally free with that by the Saint

Lawrence they had the principal part of the Detroit trade, because the ports on the Atlantic being open at all seasons, gave a decided superiority over us in the West India Trade, by which means they could always undersell us in liquors. But as *liquors* are too bulky to form a material part of the value of distant equipments, and from the present situation of the Molasses Trade *those* for the Indian Commerce must probably in future be drawn from the distillation of grain, we should now in that respect have the less to fear—As to European Merchandise, we were always equal if not Superior, because the Saint Lawrence admitting of larger Boats than the Mohawk, diminished our expence of transport.

When we come to consider this matter further, under the impossibility of obtaining *any other Line*, and what the late Treaty points out; The Neutral reciprocity of Trade with Indians, would be much in our Favour, because there would *then* remain within our confined limits, not one tenth part of the Trade (the North West excepted) that would be on the other side. As this however may probably not be known to the Americans, and that they attach to our remaining part, *a greater degree of consequence* than it deserves there would be the less fear of their objecting to it.

If the late Treaty should at last be the limits, it is indispensably necessary to the Security of the North West Trade, that the *Grand Portage* be thrown into our hands, or at any rate, that it be considered an open highway, equally belonging to both parties and each having the right of erecting such buildings as may be necessary for the furtherance of their business—Without this, even the part of the North West still within our limits would become useless, because as we said before the *Grand Portage* (or Carrying Place) being at least fifteen miles within the American Line gives them the key of that Country. The Line by last Treaty runs up the water Communication from Lake Superior towards Lake *La Pluie* & Dubois *or Lake of the Woods*. Now this communication being from where the present portage strikes it, to Lake Superior, thirty miles, and the whole way continued rapids and falls (where Canoes cannot float) is utterly impracticable, and such is the nature of the ground on this side, that a portage or Road there is totally impossible to be made. The only Route therefore that would remain to us, as the Treaty now stands, is by a River about 48 Leagues on this side the Grand Portage, falling into Lake Superior, called Nipigon or in some maps Alemipigon River. When news of the

last peace reached this Country, and an immediate delivery of the Posts was apprehended, the route by this River (Nipigon) was explored in order to ascertain how far it was practicable. The result was, that nothing but the most extreme necessity could ever make it be resorted to as a communication to the North West because there were so many Portages or Carrying Places, and so many difficulties to encounter that they could not reach the River Ouinipique, which empties from the Lake of the Woods into Lake Ouinipique, where it would strike the present route, in less than three to four weeks additional time, and a great enhancement of expence. For instance from the entrance of Nipigon River, into Lake Superior, to portage de L'Isle in River Ouinipique (where it meets the common route) is 286 Leagues and 72 carrying places, many of them extremely rough, and that could not admit without great previous expence, canoes of same size as the other way—from the mouth of Nipigon River to the Grand Portage along Lake Superior is 48 Leagues—from thence to Lake Pluie 80, from Lake Pluie to entrance of Lake of the Woods 36, Across the Lake of the Woods 30, and thence down the River Ouinipique to Portage de L'Isle 20 Leagues, in all 214, and in which distance there are only 26 Carrying Places, and those much less difficult. But a more serious evil than even this difference is, that the small Bark Canoes, which are indispensably necessary to penetrate into the interior part of the North West, are only to be had at Lake Pluie, which the Nipigon route does not give access to—and this inconvenience is not to be remedied, because by the Line of the Treaty, there is not Bark or Indians to work it up into Canoes, left within our Territory

Being confined therefore to such a route would be much the same as a total relinquishment of the Trade.

In the Article that might be inserted regarding a neutral reciprocity of Trade with the Indians, care should be taken on our side to confine it to the Province of Upper Canada, this would avoid the necessity of discussion regarding the Territory and rights of the Hudsons Bay Company, a subject that is unnecessary for us to enter upon. As *we* in the neutrality only claim it in the Country that was once parcel of the Province of Quebec & now of Upper Canada, it would of course be unreasonable to grant it to *them* but with the Indians in the part of said province still retained by us.

Some arguments occur regarding *our* right to such Trade even without stipulation. The Indians are free and independent people if

ever any on earth were so, and by the Law of Nations we are therefore entitled to trade with them. *Our* running a Line of boundary by Treaty conveys no *right* of Territory without obtaining *one* from the aboriginal proprietors. We cannot give what is not our own. The cession of that Territory therefore to America, which is still occupied by the natives, and not sold by them, means therefore we apprehend nothing more than that we cede the right of preemption of purchase from the natives. We understand that there is also an implied right of neutral Trade with Indians by the Treaty of Utrecht, and as we now represent the *then French Government* of this Country, we must enjoy whatever rights they were entitled to, and that have not been expressly given away since. Now as in the American Treaty, there is no clause of "all Treaties to the Contrary" "in any way notwithstanding" whatever right that of Utrecht gave, must still remain to us. These we only presume to mention in case every thing else should fail—because with a people so insiduous cunning and hitherto so devoid of national faith as the Americans, it becomes necessary to be secured by positive stipulations, and not trust to their good will, or any rights by implication.

Having now touched upon the subject in almost every point of view, and with a freedom which we hope Your Excellency will pardon in those who are treating of matters that involve the commercial consequence of these Provinces, and their own immediate and dearest interests, permit us to express our opinion, that should the line of the late Treaty be fully established without modification or explanation, then the remaining Indian Trade of these Provinces would hardly be worth retaining or pursuing. We also will venture to hazard another, that if the Posts should be given up, such a collision of Interests, and such a fertile field of future difficulties with our American Neighbours will thereby be generated, that hostility must eventually be the consequence, however much the delivery of possession of them may appear to prevent such an alternative for the present. It was much our wish that these remarks could have been accompanied by a map of the Country in question, by which means our ideas would have been more comprehensible, but as that is for the present impossible we shall not however lose sight of the attempt to procure and furnish one as speedily and as accurately as the materials we may have access to will admit of.

Happy shall we be if any hint is hereby conveyed, that by abler Heads and Pens can be matured into anything that may be pro-

ductive of the benefits hoped for, but should that not be the case, we shall at least have the consolation of reflecting, that every thing to the best of our ability has been done, to promote the interests of our Country in this business. We now take leave of the subject with again thanking your Excellency for the indulgence we have experienced in your attending to so long a detail and for the zeal you have shewn in searching for such information, as you conceived could in any way be conducive to the attainment of the objects in question.

We have the Honor to be with the utmost respect
Sir
Your Excellency's
Most Humble & most
Devoted Servants.

McTavish, Frobisher & Co.
Forsyth, Richarson & Co.
Todd, McGill & Co.

Montreal 23d April 1792.

His Excellency, John Graves Simcoe, Esqr., &c. &c. &c.

[Q 278, p 146]

ESTIMATE UPON REPAIRS AT FORT LERNOULT.

Quebec 25th April 1792.

Estimate of the expence of such Works and Repairs as are more immediately necessary in Fort Lernoult at Detroit To lay three new platforms, repair ten others, to rebuild the Sally port, the timbers of which are rotten & have given way, to repair part of the sod work of the interior Slope. To clear out the Ditch, and repair the Countescarp, to repair and replace part of the Picketting and Fraize, clear out and repair the Drains, mend the Ramp Ladders and Wooden Banquettes, and erect a new Flag-Staff.

Carpenters	49—18—6	
Labourers	88— 0—0	
		£137—18—6

Materials necessary.

Fifteen hundred feet runng Oak, 9 by 10
Twelve hundred sixty do 6 by 6
Eighteen hundred Supl. 3 In Oak Plank
One hundred fifty lbs 7 In. Spikes
Sixteen lbs 20d Nails
Sixteen lbs 10d Do.
Two hundred fifty pickets 14 ft long 6 In. Diamr
Eighteen hundred Supl. 2 In. pine Plank

Amounting to One Hundred Thirty Seven Pounds Eighteen Shillings and Six Pence Currency.

BENJN FISHER
Capt. Commg Rl. Engrs.

Approved,
ALURED CLARKE.

By the Major General's Command,
FRANS LEMAISTRE, M. S.

Amount of Materials £141--16 Curry. (Sic.)

Endorsed: No. 13. 25 April 1792.
Estimate for Repairs necessary to Fort Lernoult at Detroit £137—18—6.
In Lt. Govr. Clarke's No. 66, of 2d Feb. 1793.

[Q 62, p 103]

JAMES WILKINSON TO COMMANDING OFFICERS OF THE MILITIA OF KENTUCKY.

Circular.

FORT WASHINGTON 25 April 1792.

SIR,

Willing to spare the effusion of human blood, where it may be done consistently with the rights and interests of the Nations, The President of the United States has determined to give the misled and deluded tribes of Belligerent Indians, a last opportunity to save themselves by an honorable and substantial peace.

For this purpose, Messengers have been dispatched to their several Towns with overtures of accommodation, and as it is deeply interesting in every point of view that whilst these overtures are pending, offensive measures should cease on the part of the United States in every quarter.

It is ordered by the Honorable the Secretary of War, that you and the Militia under your command, do forbear all hostility, other than what may be rendered necessary in your own Defence, until the further pleasure of the President of the United States be made known.

I have the honor to be &c

(Signed) JA. WILKINSON
Commanding Officer of the Troops of the
United States Western Department.

To the Commanding Officers of the Militia of Kentucky.

General Orders.

HEAD QUARTERS,
FORT WASHINGTON 3d April 1792.

Offensive hostilities are to cease until further orders, and the commandants of all posts & Parties, are to receive Flags from the Enemy with due respect, and will forward them to this Fort, under the escort of a commissioned officer without a moments unnecessary delay.

(Signed) JA. WILKINSON
Commandant.

Witness, CALEB SWAN.

(Signed) SAM. COLESWORTHY, Junr.

[Q 59-2, p 397]

LETTER FROM LIEUT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE.

[No. 7.] QUEBEC April 28th 1792.

SIR,

But Sir, I think it of importance, and it is my duty to observe that neither upon general principles of policy of those of *Military Defence* do I conceive it necessary to erect a Town, or to fortify the pass opposite to the Isle of Bois Blanc not even should His Majesty's Government think proper to cede the post of Detroit to the United States. —I beg leave to submit to you the reasons which induce me to form this opinion. I conceive that the present situation of Great

Britain and the United States in respect to each other can only be defined to be a *Truce* with this great and essential difference, that Great Britain is anxiously desirous and most seriously disposed to convert this *Truce* into all the Confidence and advantages which discriminate a Truce from a perfect peace, and cordial Alliance. I conceive the *Government* of the United States, and facts have hitherto proved it, mean otherwise; If in this situation, it shall be the policy of great Britain under any arrangement or compromise, to give up the Barrier Forts, she will do it upon the principle of aiming to obliterate all traces of past animosity, and in the very execution of such a design, she will give no cause for suspicion in attempting to erect new and expensive Fortifications—a Fortress at the Bois blanc would exactly fall under this description—its' use would be, to prevent Vessels of Burden passing from Detroit to Lake Erie and as to effect this purpose more than one point is proposed to be embraced, it necessarily must become expensive. In a general Military View my objections are, that if the United States should see Great Britain fortifying for the express purpose of being offensive in Case of War, they would enquire into the circumstances of the pass of the Detroit and in their turn might find out a position that would give them equal or Superior advantages to what we should receive from the fortifying of the Bois Blanc and this, I apprehend, would be eminently the case at the *Spring* near the River Rouge, where the draught of wind meeting from each Lake, it frequently happens, that vessels with fair winds from both Lakes meet and are stopped. It therefore appears to me, that if it be thought necessary that Government should have a Garrison any where on the Straights of Detroit, it had better be placed directly opposite to the present Town to which, the Cannon and Stores, might easily be moved where the Barracks of the Troops might be so constructed as to be adequate fortificatons, and where, I understand wharfs, if necessary, might as conveniently be erected as on the opposite shore, and where it is probable many of the Inhabitants who prefer the British Government would easily retire, and by whose means a Commercial Intercourse would be kept up with the Inhabitants in the District of the United States.

I think it my duty, Sir, to state these opinions to you, as the necessity of erecting a Town opposite to the Bois blanc is held forth in the proceedings of the Land board of Hesse, transmitted to you at this moment, as a reason for the propriety of making a purchase of Land from the Indians of which their Superintendant Col.

McKee has declared it to be necessary for their comfort, that they should remain Possessors and in particular, as in a conversation which I had the honor of holding with Mr. Pitt, he seemed to wish to obtain such information as might be necessary to form his judgement how to obviate the inconvenience, should Great Britain cede the Barrier Forts to the United States.

I have the honor to be
with the most perfect Respect
Your most obt. & obliged Servt.

J. G. Simcoe.

Endorsed: Quebec 28th April 1792.
Lieut. Govr. Simcoe No. 7. R. 14 June. Two Enclosures.

[Q 278, p 104]

SPEECH OF BRIG. GEN. JAMES WILKINSON TO THE INDIANS.

To the Wyandott and Ottawa Nations of Indians, and all the red people living on Sandusky River & the waters in its neighbourhood.

Sachems, Chiefs & Warriors,

Listen to the voice of reason, Hear with willing Ears; see with open Eyes, and incline your hearts to peace; The Chief who addressed you, respects you because you are true men, and loves you because you are good Warriors. He is now your Enemy, but is desirous to bury the Hatchet, take you by the hand and call you Brothers.

By order of General Washington, the head Chief of the United States of America, I sent three young men, in the beginning of last month with a talk, directed to all the nations now at war, a copy of which Talk I herewith send you. My young men were directed to keep the big road, by which the Army marched to Kakinga, the fall before last, and they have now been absent forty four days—since the departure of these young men, a big Captain has arrived here with a great talk from our Father Washington and tomorrow he will proceed with it towards the Omie River.

Chiefs & Warriors,

Now the reason why I send this short talk to you, particularly at this time, is, because I have confidence in your truth, and your

wisdom, and that I wish you to repair immediately with the bearer to the Omie, there to hear the Talk of our Father General Washington, to have your Eyes opened, and your hearts put at ease, but if this should be disagreeable to you, it is my wish that all your Chiefs, should come immediately to this place or go to Pittsburgh, and from thence to Philadelphia, where our Father waits to take you by the hand of friendship, and to convince you that bad and wicked men have been the cause of the war between us, and the blood we have spilt.

SACHEMS, CHIEFS & WARRIORS,

This Talk will be delivered to you by a Chief and Great Warrior, who is directed to make his way to you as quick as possible, I pray of you to receive him as a Brother, and to treat him well, that he may wipe away the mist from your eyes, and enable you to see and to understand, the sincerity and good disposition of our great Chief towards you and all the nations of red People.

Given under my hand at Fort Washington the twentieth day of May, one thousand seven hundred and ninety two, and the sixteenth year of American Independance.

JAS. WILKINSON

Brig. Genl. in the Army of the United States.

Indorsed: A.
In Lt. Col. England's of 5th July 1792.
Transmitted: In Lt. Govr. Clarke's No. 46, of 29 Sep. 1792.

[Q 61-1, p 141]

BRIG. GEN. JAMES WILKINSON TO COL. JOHN HARDEN.

FORT WASHINGTON May 20th 1792.

SIR,

You will take your departure tomorrow for the Wyandot Towns on the Sandusky River, and will proceed by such Route as in your Judgement may appear most condusive to the safe, certain and expeditious accomplishment of this Journey. The great object of your Mission, is to induce the Chiefs of that and the neighbouring Nations to accompany you to Philadelphia, immediately by Pittsburgh, or by this post, or should that be impracticable, you are if possible to prevail upon them to accompany you to the Omee, where you will fall in with Major Trueman, and by your joint exertions, will accomplish as general a convention of the tribes as

possible, when this object is attained in the highest degree possible, the Speech from the President must be delivered to them in due form, and having added to this Speech such information and concessions consistent with the Instructions of the Secretary of War, as may appear to be popular among the hostile Tribes, They are to be requested after due deliberation to give a decisive answer, as to their disposition to peace, or their Determination on War, You are to commit to writing, this answer & the substance of all their Speeches; Should they decide in favor of the latter, after your reiterated endeavours to reconcile and pacify them, you will concert such measures for your safe return, as may in your Judgement, best answer that end, but should you on the contrary find them disposed, or be able to incline them to peace, you will in conjunction with Major Trueman exert your utmost endeavours to prevail upon a deputation from all the Tribes to proceed by this Post, or by the nearest route, to Philadelphia, in order to hold a Conference, and effect a final accomodation, with the President, and as an inducement thereto, you are to promise them a safe passport, Clothing, Arms, Ammunition, provisions, silver Ornaments and such other necessaries as they may require. Failing in this attempt, you will then endeavour to bring them to a treaty at this place, or at one of our out-posts. And in case that also should be found impracticable, you may engage to meet them at Kakinga, the site of the old Maumi Village;

In fixing upon the day for such Treaty, you will have particular regard to the time necessary for the intelligence to be transmitted to the President, and for the appointment and arrival (at this place) of Commissioners of Peace, with the necessary provision to aid the negociation, to prevent the effects of misfortune, disappointment or delay in making the necessary communications to the Secretary of War, you are to dispatch a duplicate of your letter to me, by a Courier directly to Pittsburgh;

Whilst these measures are depending, you are to stipulate a solemn Armistice, but are to make known to the Indians that we shall continue to send forward regular supplies of provisions to our out posts, and should it be deemed politick, I would advise that Major Trueman continue at the Towns.

Should any circumstance of importance clearly & decidedly favourable or unfavourable to our views, occur at Sandusky, you will endeavour to send in a runner to Pittsburgh with communications on the subject, to the Secretary of War.

Heartily wishing you safety & success, I pray God to keep you under his protection and am with the sincerest regard.

Sir &ca.

JAS. WILKINSON
B. Genl. A. U. S.

Colonel John Harden.

Indorsed: E.
In Lt. Col. England's of 5 July 1792.
Transmitted: In Lt. Govr. Clarke's No. 46, of 29 Sep. '92.

[Q 61–1, p 156]

CAPT. JOSEPH BRANT TO COL. A. GORDON.

[No. 1.] LENOX 21st May 1792.

DEAR SIR,

My Messengers having returned from Detroite, who I sent thither to make the Western Indians acquainted with a message I had from Congress, and to learn their situation, and know their opinion, respecting the Invitation.

They are now returned, and I have likewise received another message from Congress in consequence of the reports from the Westward—after weighing matters maturely I have determined to accept of the present invitation and propose setting out for Philadelphia in a few days.

I am Dear Sir

Your most obedt. huml. Servant

(Signed) JOS^{H} BRANT.

To Colonel Gordon.

[Q 59–2, p 412]

CAPT. JOSEPH BRANT TO COL. A. GORDON.

[No. 2.] LENOX 22d May 1792.

DEAR SIR,

In consequence of a message from you, by Doctor Kerr, wishing to know, whether Col. Butler had recommended my visiting General Knox in consequence of his invitations, Colonel Butler has recom-

mended it to me to go, he looking upon it that it would be attended with favorable consequences to the Indians.

I am Dear Sir
Your most obedient
humble Servant
(Signed) Josh Brant.

Col. Gordon.

Indorsed: 4 & 5.
In Lt. Govr. Clarke's No. 31, of 13 June 1795 (2 ?).

[Q 59–2, p 413]

CAPT. JOSEPH BRANT TO COL. A. MC KEE.

Lenox 23d May 1792.

Dr. Sir,

Yours from Niagara I received and am sorry I had not the pleasure of seeing you, particularly so, as you did not answer me on the subject I last requested your opinion, having the other day received another pressing invitation from General Knox and the Messengers I dispatched to Detroit being returned, weighing the situation of the Indians and the evasive answers we received from the officers of Government, when applied to for assistance, I have thought it advisable upon mature reflection, to accept of the last, and am this far on my way; my situation at present truly disagreeable, those employed by Government, dissuading me from going, without being able, officially to promise us protection, in my opinion, candidly speaking, things are come to that crisis that steps ought to be immediately taken to secure ourselves from the insults and ravages of the Americans, if Great Britain wishes us to defend our Country, why not tell us so in plain language. If the reverse, let it be mentioned, then we will know how to act, and be enabled to take such steps as will secure us and our posterity. There is now a field open for our accommodation with the Americans, and which, as far as we consistently can, ought for our own Interest, and the happiness of our Women & Children endeavor to accomplish.

If their demands are such as we cannot comply with, then the best of a bad bargain must be made, carrying on a Defensive war, defending our real property, may probably incite the pity of Great

Britain, and make them explain themselves on this subject, which I have never as yet, been able to prevail upon them to do. My taking this jaunt to the American seat of government, will enable me to form an Idea of their Intentions, and how far a Peace is likely to take place, as they wish to consult with me on different subjects. I shall on this one be no way backward of freely telling the steps I think necessary to be taken by them, if they are inclined for peace, relinquishing the Idea of having the Muskingum Treaty fulfilled, is in my opinion the principle object that prevents an accommodation, the Interests of the Indians has ever and I hope ever shall be my greatest aim, in accomplishing of which I have never spared time or trouble, my present step I hope will be a more convincing step thereof, and government, I have little doubt but will approve of it, as it is nearly our last effort. The Americans have paved the way for peace, in so doing they'll probably resign pretensions, which they would by no means do were we the solicitors.

Saying any—particular to you about our situation is needless, as you are as well acquainted therewith, as I can describe, I must therefore again solicit you to know your opinion, and that of Great Britain respecting us, you are now where you may learn it—Our conduct in any wise being disapproved of, would hurt me much, but when I reflect on the questions I have frequently asked of the great, leading men, to which they have always declined answering me pointedly. This I hope will now bring the business to an Issue, and we may know, whether to prosecute the war or to make a peace, one of which must be the case.

I wrote to Sir John in the course of last winter respecting Provision for our Western friends, to which, as well as one I wrote to Mr. Chew, on the same subject, likewise hinting my expectation of Receiving an Invitation from Congress, to neither of which (though pressing) have I ever received an answer.

Hearing from you as soon as possible fully on this subject will be greatly esteemed by

Dr Sir

Your sincere friend and well wisher

(Signed) Jos. Brant.

Colonel McKee, Montreal.

Indorsed: 3.
In Lt. Govr. Clarke's No. 31, of 13 June 1792.

[Q 59-2, p 408]

LIEUT. GOV. ALURED CLARKE TO HENRY DUNDAS.

[No. 30.] QUEBEC 26th May 1792.

SIR,

I have the honor to inclose you copies of three Letters & their inclosures, from Colonel Gordon commanding the Upper Posts, also one from Mr. McKee, Indian agent at Detroit, which contain the latest communications from that quarter.

A. B. C. D.

What are the particulars referred to by Colonel Gordon as of too delicate a nature to be trusted to the channel of an official dispatch, I have not yet learnt, nor have as yet received copies of the Secretary of Wars Instructions to General St Clair, or Joseph Brant's Letter declining [General Knox's Invitation to visit Philadelphia, but I shall take the earliest opportunity after the receipt thereof to transmit them to you.

I have the honor to be with great respect, Sir,

Your most obedient and
most faithful humble Servant

ALURED CLARKE.

The Right Honble Henry Dundas

Indorsed: Quebec 26th May 1792.
Lieut. Govr. Clarke No. 30. R. 11 July. 14 Enclosures.

[Q 59-2, p 358]

LETTER FROM COL. A. GORDON.

Extract of a letter from Colonel Gordon dated

NIAGARA 30th May 1792.

SIR,

I have the honor to state to you for the information of His Excellency the Commander in Chief, that in consequence of the invitation to Captain Brant (as notified in my letter under date 15th of the present month) he sett off for Philadelphia on the 22nd.

After the opinions I had assumed the liberty of giving him, on a former occasion of this nature, I declined any further interference, being uncertain how far the steps I had already taken met with the concurrence of His Excellency.

The accompanying papers marked No 1 & 2 contain all I know on the subject.

[Q 59-2, p 412]

EXTRACT.

Extract of a Letter received from the Glaize dated the 3rd June 1792.

"Four or five days ago a Captain Trueman was killed about 60 miles from this place, he had a Commission from Knox dated Philadelphia 4th April impowering him to treat with the Indians, and if they had any grievances which they wished redressed, he was to endeavor to get the Chiefs to Philadelphia. The Speech Addressed to the Indians to which is affixed a large Belt of White Wampum, promises them fair. They tell them they ask for no more Land than what they purchased at Muskingum in 1789, and if they can shew that those Chiefs who disposed of those Lands had no right to do so, they will either give up their claim or make a sufficient compensation for them.

It is wrote on parchment and couched in a language not so offensive to Indian Ears as the Speeches formerly sent among them. I am just now informed also two men who were sent by way of Sandusky are also killed."

Indorsed: Copy No. 2.
Glaize 3 June 1792.
Copy of an Extract of a Letter,

[Q 61-1, p 160]

WILLIAM MAY'S DECLARATION.

DETROIT 9th June 1792.

William May an American Deserter brought in by the Indians yesterday evening declares, that, he deserted from Fort Hamilton the 13th April last, That on the 20th he was met by a party of Mingoes who brought him to the Glaize. That the Garrison of Fort Hamilton, when he deserted consisted of one Captain, one Lieutenant, one Ensign, a Doctor, Commissary and seventy Serjeants, Corporals, Rank and File, a Corporal and Six Artillery men with three pieces of Cannon.

The Americans had built a strong Fort, between Forts Hamilton and Jefferson called Fort St Clair. That when the American Army came against the Indians last Fall Doctor Ellison had orders to poison the Liquor they had with them, in case they should be defeated, but the Doctor thinking it would be time enough to do it when there should be any appearance of their retreating, together

with the great attention he paid Major Ferguson of the artillery who was mortally wounded, made him forget obeying the orders being put into execution till too late.

He further adds that when he came away, the Pack Horse Masters were all provided with Poison to put into the Liquors on any appearance of being surprised by the Indians.

Indorsed: No. 3.
Detroit 9th June 1792.
William May's Declaration.

[Q 60–1, p 161]

SPEECH OF THE SHAWANESE AND DELAWARES TO CAPT. MATHEW ELLIOTT.

GRAND GLAIZE 11th June 1792.

FATHER,

The two Speeches that accompany this, we are at a loss what answer to return to, we alone here can do nothing, but all the warriors of the different nations meet at the Mahigan Town, when we all meet we will tell them to abandon this side of the Ohio if they expect peace.

We commence our Campaign with the siege of Fort Jefferson and if it should please the Great Spirit to grant us success we will send in our answer by the Prisoners.

As we have sent you all the Speeches you will see what they tell us. These are our Intentions at present, but we want your advice, send us it that it may overtake at the Mahigan Town. We imagine they mean to dupe us as usual, but we mean to be ready to receive them. This day the first of us left this place, and we have sent word to the Potowatamies and to those at the foot of the Rapids to meet us at the above mentioned place, be strong therefore & *push* on those of your Children that are nigh Detroit.

FATHER,

You told us you would supply our families with provisions, they are now left & now is the time, send it out as soon as you can, and as much as possible, as we wish to do something before our return, we do not expect to be back soon. Do every thing for us in your power and if it can be done prevail on the Traders amongst us to bring it from the Rapids.

We wanted White hat to go along with us to write our answer to the Americans, but as he has told us he cannot go send us out

some person from Detroit for that purpose that he may overtake us at the Mahigan River.

Speech of the Shawanese & Delawares at the Glaize to Captain Elliott.

Indorsed: B.
In Lt. Colo. England's of 5 July 1792.
Transmitted: In Lt. Govr. Clarke's No. 46, of 29 Sepr. '92.

[Q 61-1, p 144]

SIR JOHN JOHNSON TO LIEUT GOV. ALURED CLARKE.

MONTREAL 11th June 1792.

SIR,

Colonel McKee and Mr. Chew who arrived here this morning at nine o'clock have agreeably to your Excellency's desire made known to me the purport of the Communications and directions received from the Secretary of State, with your Excellency's wishes relative thereto.

As it is not positively known that the Western Nations will recede (If necessary) from the Boundary described by their Deputies last year at Quebec, nor what line the Six Nations may insist upon as a continuation from that to the Northward, it will be necessary that Lieutenant Colonel Butler and Colonel McKee obtain their determination thereon, before any person can with propriety be dispatched to Mr. Hammond upon the subject.

As Colonel McKee's objections and the necessity there may be for his presence at Detroit, particularly at this time when various distant Nations are now assembled, and assembling at the Glaize, and the Miamis Villages, even from the Spanish side of the Mississippi, may be considered as a sufficient reason to prevent his being employed on this occasion—the same motives that have ever actuated my conduct, would upon this, as upon every other occasion, influence me to offer my services were it not for the very unpleasant predicament I stand in, proscribed by an Act of Attainder, with many other reasons and circumstances that would render it highly improper for me to go into the States at present. I am therefore at a loss to point out a proper Person, unless the situation Mr. Dease is in would not be thought an objection to his being employed, in that case I know no other person in the Department so well qualified in point of abilities & address, as well from a general knowledge of the dispositions, Interest and Inclinations of

the Six Nations and Western Indians in particular. Should he not be thought eligible I know no other Person in the Department except Colonel Campbell, and he is totally unacquainted with the claims and pretensions of those nations, and with the Geography of that Country.

Colonel McKee will wait the arrival of the Post that your Excellency may give such directions as you may judge proper as to the assembling the Indians at Niagara & Detroit to hear and receive their final resolutions, the Person to be employed, if in this Quarter may wait to receive your dispatches, and to save time may meet the Messenger from Detroit with the answer, at Niagara and go through the Six Nation Country to New York or Philadelphia, or go on to Sandusky, and go by the route of Tuscurawas and Fort Pitt to Philadelphia, as may be thought most advisable from the Information that may be received from Colonel McKee as to the safety of the one or the other route, time does not admit of my entering more fully into this business, but I will be happy to have it in my power to give you every Information in my power, and have the honor to be with great respect and regard

Sir

Your most obedient and
most humble. Servant
(Signed) JOHN JOHNSON.

His Excellency Major General Clarke, &c. &c. &c.

Indorsed: 2.
In Lt. Govr. Clarke's No. 31, of 13 June 1792.

[Q 59–2, p 404]

LIEUT. GOV. ALURED CLARKE TO HENRY DUNDAS.

QUEBEC 13th June 1792.

SIR,

On the 27th Ulto I had the honor to receive the Duplicate of your letter of the 16th March covering copies of one from you to my Lord Dorchester and another from Lord Grenville to Mr. Hammond on the subject of the Indian War; and on the 9th Inst Mr. Givens arrived here, via New York by whom I received the originals, and shall pay particular attention to the subject matter thereof.

I am also to acknowledge the receipt of your circular Letter of the 2d February and one of the 10th April delivered me on the 11th Instant by Brigade Major Littlehales.

A Proclamation (copy of which No. 1 is inclosed) having been sent from Fort Washington to the Miamis for a Cessation of hostilities between the Americans and the Indians for two Months, Mr. McKee has taken advantage thereof to come to Montreal, and was actually there at the time your letter came to hand. I therefore desired Sir John Johnson and him to meet Colonel Simcoe and myself at this place without delay; illness in Sir John's family prevented his coming, but he sent the Secretary of the Indian Department with Mr. McKee. On communicating the purport of your letter, and acquainting Mr McKee that he had been pointed out as the proper person to assist Mr. Hammond in the proposed negotiation, he expressed his readiness to exert himself in every way that might tend to the advancement of His Majesty's Service, but was apprehensive that the part he had taken for many years past, and his connection with the Indians might render it very hazardous to go into the States, and at the same time stated that if that was not the case, a measure of this kind without first mentioning his intentions to the Indians would create great jealousies and contribute much to lessen his influence among them that as they were assembling his presence was absolutely necessary, and if he was not there His Majesty's Interest would suffer much; In which opinion Colonel Simcoe and myself coincided and we have been since confirmed therein by Sir John Johnson's.

I immediately dispatched Mr. McKee to the Superintendant General, in hopes that he would himself undertake the Journey to Philadelphia, convinced he would afford great aid to Mr. Hammond and that his presence there would be productive of very good effects.

I have this morning received from him a Letter in reply, copy of which No 2 is inclosed, by which you will see that he is of opinion it is unsafe to go there, and at the same time thinks that the determination of the Indians should be collected before any person can be dispatched with effect to Mr. Hammond upon the subject. I shall therefore give directions for their being assembled at Niagara and Detroit for the purposes set forth in his Letter; and in the mean time will send Mr. Givens to Mr. Hammond with such information as it may be requisite to communicate immediately and this I think the more necessary as you will find by the inclosed papers No 3, 4, and 5 which I have just received that Joseph Brant has accepted General Knox's Invitation, and is actually gone to Philadelphia.

Inclosed I transmit No 6 Copy of the Secretary at War's Instructions to General St Clair, received since my last to you.

I have the honor to be with great respect
Sir Your most obedient
and most faithful humble Servant

The Right Honble Henry Dundas. ALURED CLARKE.

Indorsed: Quebec 13th June 1792.
Lieut. Govr. Clarke No. 31. R. 21 July. 6 Enclosures.

[Q 59–2, p 393]

LIEUT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE TO HENRY DUNDAS, SEC'Y.

[No. 10.] MONTREAL June 21st 1792.

SIR,

I have been most Industriously employed in concert with Colonel McKee and the Indian Department in procuring every possible information to substantiate the claims of the Indian Americans to such Lands as His Majesty's Ministers have thought it proper in their wisdom that they should retain—and yesterday the 21st Lt. Givens carried such documents as were thought useful by the General, Sir John Johnson, or myself to Mr. Hammond.

I agreed perfectly with Major General Clarke that it was unnecessary to communicate that part of your dispatch which hints at the Evacuation of the Forts to any person; but in conversation with Colonel McKee, as He intimated that he apprehended such a measure might be necessary to obtain the compliance of Congress with the proposed line of Demarcation, I minuted down his Ideas, and transmitted them to Mr. Hammond, as our joint opinion, of which I beg to enclose a copy.

I have the Honor to be with the utmost Respect
Sir Your very obt & obliged Servt

To the Rt. Honble Henry Dundas, J. G. SIMCOE.
One of His Majesty's principal Secretaries of State, Whitehall, London.

Indorsed: Montreal 21st June 1792.
Lt. Govr. Simcoe No. 10. R. 3d Augt. Two Enclosures.

[Q 278, p 178]

LT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE AND COL. A. MC KEE TO GEORGE HAMMOND.

Suppose a Boundary should be settled upon the following Terms.

1st The Indian Territory to form a Line, seperating the British Territory and that of the States.

2d. The Posts of Niagara, Oswego & Detroit to be demolished & not held by either, & included in the Indian Territory.

3d Michillimackinac to be evacuated.

4th The Genesee Territory but no Post to be continued to the United States, & as a *proper Ballance*, Great Britain, To possess the following Territory.

5thly From the Rapids of the Miami River, or from the River St Clair, on the west, & two Leagues deep to the South, this seems to have been the original allotment of Congress, therefore more reasonable to presume that they would admit it.

By these proposals being adopted, the Settlers at Detroit would be amenable to the British Jurisdiction, otherwise they would become Lawless Vagabonds, and it is obvious injurious to the system of peace so necessary to the States, Indians & British.

The Settlements extend to the Miami Rapids.

This arrangement it is probable would perpetuate peace between the different nations.

J. G. SIMCOE.
A. MCKEE.

To His Excellency George Hammond, &c. &c. &c.

[Q 278, p 191)

COL. SIMCOE TO MR. HAMMOND.

Extracts from Colonel Simcoe's Letter to Mr. Hammond by Mr. Givings, Dated June 21st.

"His Majesty's Ministers do not seem to have made any distinction " between Detroit and the other Posts; there is an essential one, it is " a large settlement & I should hope, would remain to us as an " Equivalent for the Genesee Country.

" It would be very mischievous to allow settlements of the extent " of Detroit to be neutral; nor would it be abandoned by its present " possessors; It would therefore be the Interest of both Countries, " that it should remain under a Jurisdiction that might be amenable " for the peaceable demeanor of the Inhabitants & answerable under " the strictest limitations not to extend the Territory" J. G. S.

Indorsed: Extract from Communications made to Mr. Hammond by Colonel Simcoe. In Lt. Govr. Simcoe's (No. 10) of 21st June 1792. No. 2.

[Q 278, p 192]

LIEUT. COL. RICHARD ENGLAND TO FRANCIS LE MAISTRE.

DETROIT July 5th 1792.

SIR,

I have the honor to inclose you herewith for the inspection of His Excellency Major General Clarke, Copies of some papers sent in here from the Grand Glaize, and in a separate cover inclose you a copy of an Address from the President of the United States to all the Western Indians, signed & forwarded by Major General Knox. These papers were sent to Captain Elliott Assistant Superintendant of Indian Affairs and with them an Account that Colonel Harden and Captain Trueman officers belonging to the United States to whom they were entrusted, were unfortunately killed by some young Indians. They were also accompanied with a Letter to Captain Elliot from the Shawanese, and Delawares praying for some Provisions for their wives & Children, an extract of which I enclose you, and in consequence of a Requisition from him, and an assurance, that it has ever been customary to assist them with Provisions when in distress for them, I sent him on the 24th Ultimo with some Indian Corn, a little Flour, some Pork & Pease, and agreeable to the General Instructions sent an officer from the Garrison (Lieut. McDonell) to see them delivered.

On the 22d of June, Captain Elliot informed me that he received an Account that the Americans had advanced near the ground where the action was fought on the 4th of last November, and were building a Fort there, but from some particulars that I have since heard, am apt not to credit it.

Since I have assumed the command here, I have sent to Niagara six Prisoners that have been at different times taken by the Indians, and have wrote to Major Smith to send them to their own Country at his discretion, some of them have been sold to Traders by the Indians, and the officer commanding at Mackinac purchased two of them.

I have the honor to be, Sir

Your very obedt &

Very humble Servant

RD. ENGLAND.

Frans LeMaistre, Esqr.

Indorsed: No. 1.
Copy of a Letter from Lt. Col. England dated 5th July 1792, with inclosures.
In Lt. Govr. Clarke's No. 46, of 29th Sepr. 1792.

[Q 61-1, p 139]

CAPT. DOYLE TO SIR JOHN JOHNSON.

Extract of a Letter from Captain Doyle Commanding at Michilimackinac to Sir John Johnson, Bart, Superintendt General &c of Indian Affairs dated Macknc 23d July 1792.

"Wakeso an Ottawa Chief will have the honor to deliver you this Letter, he with five Chiefs of his nation set out from hence to morrow to renew their friendship with the Iroquois. Their Great Chief La Fourche requested this day in Council, that I would inform you they had no other view in their visit, having delayed answering the friendly Speeches sent them by that Nation for six years.

The Grand Sable is just returned from the Miamies he surprized a party of Americans, consisting of an officer & fourteen men, close to Fort Jefferson, who were all taken; Some disagreement arising among the Indians about the distribution of the Prisoners, occasioned ten of the unfortunate men with their officer to be put to death, the four Survivors are at a Chippeway Village thirty Leagues from hence, whom I have sent for, and have every reason to suppose will be given up to me, when they shall be sent to Detroit."

[Q 61-1, p 166]

GENERAL STATEMENT OF WORKS PROPOSED AT MICHILIMACKINAC AND DETROIT.

QUEBEC 25th July 1792.

General Statement of such services as have been ordered to be performed, and are in part executed in the Engineers Department in the Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada for this Year with the works proposed to be carried on in 1793.

Michilimakinac

The Fortifications originally designed at this Post, were only in part executed, and have been discontinued for some years, owing as well to the great expence attending them, as to the system adopted not having perhaps been sufficiently or properly considered, the ditches which are in the works are very little excavated, and the rampart but partly raised, but in order to prevent the place being surprized by Indians or others, a picketting has been raised upon it all

round, which is now almost intirely rotten, and in many places fallen down, a great part of the bank under the cill has given way, and more may be expected to follow, the platforms are so decayed as to be perfectly useless, new Gun Carriages have been sent up and two new 3½ In Howitzers Carriages are ordered to be made for the Post, a small Barrack room has lately been built and fitted up with births for the accomodation of the Detachment, but the Officer's Barracks are reported to be scarcely habitable, the commanding officers houses, as well as some of the Stores are without the Fort; there is a pile of building of Masonry within the fort, intended for Officers' Barracks, about half finished, the walls nearly raised to their proper height and the window frames put in but the roof floors &c are wanting.

Considering the present state and circumstances of the Island I cannot recommend compleating the fort on the original plan as the greater part of what has been done appears to me to be ill judged and most of the expence bestowed on it a waste of money and hardly any improvement or alteration can be made that will fall much short of a new one.

If the works were intended as a defence against musketry or Indians only too much was designed and if against Cannon by far too little and most of that little ill judged.

In the first case a Picketted fort flanked with Block-Houses or if designed to be permanent a loop holed wall or good stone Block house instead of picketting would have been quite sufficient; had an Enemy with Cannon been apprehended, it would then have been necessary to have taken post on the commanding ground which effectually commands the fort at about Seven or Eight Hundred yards, either by a Redout or such other work as the strength of the Garrison proposed to be kept here might have pointed out, but for the immediate protection of the Village it would still have been necessary to have had the small picketted or walled fort in the situation where the present work stands, as being under the hill, it is too distant, and not seen from the Commanding ground—An Estimate is herewith transmitted of what may probably be the amount of such repairs as are deemed indispensibly necessary.

Estimate No. 1.

Till something is decided on respecting this fort till new arrangements take place, and in order as far as possible to ensure the immediate possession of it, at least to prevent any surprise by

Indians or others, I should imagine that the picketting ought to be renewed, the platforms and Barracks repaired, and some attention paid to the road leading up to the Fort, and if it should be judged expedient the Officers Barracks (if on examination the walls should be found not to have received much injury from being so long left exposed) might be compleated. The Expence of these repairs will no doubt be considerable from the extent of the Picketting and the ruinous state of the Buildings.

Detroit.

The principal services now executing at this place consist in such repairs as are more immediately necessary to the officers and soldiers Barracks, erecting a Flag Staff, removing twelve platforms and repairing five others in Fort Lernoult.

With respect to such further services as may be necessary for the year 1793, it is not an easy matter for me to determine without knowing to what extent Government may chuse to go in re-establishing the post or the importance in which it is viewed.

The decayed State of the Buildings and the insecurity of the defences of the Towns from the runious condition of the Block houses and Picketting has been already reported on by Boards of Survey, and since more fully by Lieut Pilkington of the Royal Engineers.

I shall therefore state generally the condition of the works and Buildings in the Fort, Citadel, Town and Naval Yard, accompanying the report with separate Estimates and submitting to better judgement the propriety of incurring so heavy an expence as appears requisite to re-instate the works and Buildings of the Post.

Fort Lernoult.

The greater part of the interior Slope of the rampart requires fresh sodding, the Magazine to be repaired, and the position of the entrance changed, the sheds for the fixed Ammunition are bad, and from their proximity to other Buildings, and to the Magazine endanger the safety of the place in case of fire, a new one is therefore proposed new drip boards and several new water spouts are wanting to the Barracks, the Sally Port quite rotten, unsafe & injurious to the health of the men occasionally confined there. The

main Drain very offensive, the fraize and picketting in the ditch much decayed, the ditch requires in many parts to be cleaned and the counterscrap repaired, the Gate, Bridge, and Abbatis are good the Magazine contiguous to the Fort wants some trifling repairs for its security, for it is to be apprehended from the whole tenor of the building that it will not be of long duration.

Citadel.

The Barracks in general require plastering, white-washing and repairs to the Hearths and Chymnies; thirty two new Sashes are wanted, as also two addtional ones for the Hospital to give a freer communication of air. The Barrack Stores are mostly placed in the upper story of the Men's Barracks as are also the Artillery Stores, the latter from their great weight, not only render such a disposition very inconvenient but endanger greatly the Building which is slight, the picketting of the citadel and wood yard is wholly decayed.

Town.

The Picketting on the water side is good but from Fort Lernoult to the water on the East side, quite rotten, and in many places supported by props, the same on the West side excepting the saliant parts contiguous to the Block houses. The Block houses Nos 1 & 2 wholly decayed, and unsafe even to the removal of the Cannon now in them, the Water Block House is secure for the present but not worthy of considerable repairs—West Block House may last some time with common repairs, but the one in the Barrack yard which at present serves as Commissary and Barrack Masters Stores is quite decayed. These Block-Houses are at present raised on upright frames, 12 feet high, if they are to be reinstated I should recommend an alteration in their construction and that their lower frame might be converted into a store room or useful apartment which would add but little to the expence.

The East Platform by the River is on too slight a frame to be secure and the West Platform is wholly rotten, this latter is commanded by a bank which is an accumulation of rubbish from the Town and should be removed.

The Indian Store is so wholly decayed that any repairs would be injudicious. A framed Building 60 feet by 30 is recommended for the accommodation of the Indian, Artillery, and Storekeeper General's Stores; it may be eligibly placed in the Citadel behind the Barracks the weighty stores being in the lower part, frame work will be sufficient. The Artillery carriages require painting, twenty Travelling Magazines are wanting, Ladders and Sentry Boxes much wanted.

Naval Yard

Is surrounded only by a slight Picketting and without the protection of the Garrison, the Naval Store house is so completely decayed that props are fixed on all sides to prevent its falling; the Building at present consists of two stories and is 85 feet by 22. The lower storey is the Store and the upper one a working place for Riggers, both places are sufficiently large for the purposes to which they are applied, but as a fire in winter is necessary for the Riggers, I thought it advisable to have a detached Building for them and have estimated accordingly: this Building is I apprehend so essentially necessary for the fitting out and repair of the vessels on the Lakes, that it is necessary it should be early attended to. If it is judged expedient to re-construct the Naval Store House in the way proposed, I should recommend a deviation of the line of Picketting of the Town (as marked red in the Plan A) advancing at the same time the Block House No 2 for should it not inclose a more eligible spot for a Dock Yard than that at present occupied, it at least offers a secure and convenient situation for the Naval Buildings.

I have offered little more than is necessary for the re-establishing the works and Buildings of the Post, how far the present circumstances & situation of it render such a measure advisable is not for me to determine.

Estimates No. 2 & 3.

BENJN. FISHER
Capt. Comdg. Royl. Engrs.

[Q 60, p 225]

Estimate of the expence of sundry Materials required for such repairs as may be deemed indispensably necessary at the Island of Michilimackinac to secure that Fort against a surprise by Indians, per Captain Fisher's estimate. Dated Quebec, 35th July, 1792.

	£	s	d
2,500 Cedar Pickets, 14 feet long, 6 in Diam. @ 140*s*	175	0	0
1,570 feet running scantling 6 by 6 @ 4*d*	26	3	4
150 Inch Boards @ 1*s* 3*d*	9	7	6
12-3 Inch Plank @ 3*s* 6*d*	2	2	0
25-2 Inch do @ 2*s* 6*d*	3	2	6
50 Pine Logs @ 15*s*	37	10	0
180 Bushels Lime @ 2*s* ea	18	0	0
2,000 of Shingles @ 37*s* 6*d*	3	15	0
4,500 of Shingle Nails @ 3*s* 6*d*	"	15	9
1,500 of 20*d* Nails @ 14*s*	1	1	0
1,200 of 30*d* Nails @ 16*s*	"	19	2
6 lbs of Putty @ 10*d* p. lb	"	5	0
150 of Inch Spikes @ 3*d* ea	1	17	6
20 Cubic feet of Oak @ 6*d* ea	"	10	0
60 Feet of Running red Iron for conductor to the Magazine @ 1*s* 6*d*	4	10	0
120 panes of glass @ 6*d*	3	0	0
	£287	18	9

Amounting to Two hundred, eighty seven pounds, eighteen shillings & nine pence currency Dollars at five Shillings.

JOHN CRAIGIE, Com'y & Q. M. Gen'l

Indorsed: Estimate &c.
In Lt. Gov. Clark's No. 43. of 5 Sept. 1792.

[Q 60, p 251]
55

Quebec 25th July 1792.

Estimate of the expense of such repairs as are necessary for the works & Buildings of the Post of Detroit from the Report of Lieut Pilkington Royal Engineers.

To repair the works Picketting and Fraize of Fort Lernoult.

Sodders work	£ 15
Laborers do	40—10
Carpenters do	65— 1
	£ 120—11

Materials necessary.

Four hundred feet runng 3 In pine plank
Fourteen hundred twenty feet do 2 do
Eighty four feet 4 In quartering
Two hundred feet oak scantling 3 In by 4 In
Three hundred do do 7 by 5
One hundred 2 In Plank Oak
One hundred feet runng Oak 6 by 5
One hundred do do 8 by 8
Ten 3 Inch oak Planks
Fifteen hundred cedar or oak Pickets—6 In. Diamr. 12 ft long.
Seventeen hundred do do 14 feet long
Twelve hundred feet oak 6 by 4
Fourteen hundred feet do 5 by 3
One hundred fifty feet solid oak
Two hundred 5 Inch Spikes
One hundred eighty 7 Inch do
Three hundred 40*d* nails
Five hundred 20*d* do

To repair the Barracks, Magazine, Guard house, Storerooms & Drains & renew the spouts and Drip Boards round the Buildings

Carpenters work	£ 31— 5—0
Masons do	3—15—0
Laborers do	5—10—0
Smiths	1—17—6
Glaziers	3—0
Shinglers	2—10—0
	45—0—6

Materials necessary.

Nine hundred Bricks
Fifteen Barrels of Lime
Eighty Inch Boards
One hundred twenty 1½ In. plank
Thirteen hundred feet scantling 7 in by 5 in
Four thousand eight hundred shingles
Ten thousand shingle nails
Sixteen hundred 20*d* nails
Three thousand four hundred 10*d* do.
Eight hundred 40*d* do
Twenty six loads of sand
Twenty four panes of glass 7½ by 8½
Four lbs. Putty
One Latch and Catch
One cwt & a quarter 2 In flat Iron
Two cwt 1 In square Iron
Two hundred fifty featheredged Boards
Forty six 2 In oak Planks
Fifteen pieces oak 15 ft long—9 in thick from 10 in to 14 in wide
Two do Do. 20 feet do 12 by 10
Two hundred 7 In Spikes

To make Twenty four long & Twenty four Short Ladders for Barracks

Carpenter's work ..... 6—0—0

Materials necessary

Forty eight pieces oak 15 ft long 3 in by 4 in
Forty eight do 10 do Do.
Eighteen cubic feet oak

To build a shed to contain the Fixed ammunition 15 feet by 18 feet in the clear

Carpenters work	£ 9—	0—0
Laborers do	2—	10—0
		11—10—0

Materials necessary

One hundred ft runng oak 12 In square
Four hundred fifty Do Do 8 In thick 10 to 14 wide
One hundred Do Do 7 in by 3 in
Thirty 2 In pine plank
Twelve Inch Do
Sixty Inch oak Boards.
Three hundred 20*d* nails
Four hundred 10*d* do
One pair strong Hook & Strap Hinges
One large Stock Lock

To repair the Barrack's Guard Room and Hospital in the Citadel.

Carpenter's	work	£	15—17—6
Mason's	do		3—18—0
Shingler's	do		1—17—6
Laborer's	do		2—15—0
Glazier's	do		5— 2—6
Smith's	do		—15—0
			30— 5—6

Materials necessary

Fifteen hundred Bricks
Twenty Barrels Lime
Eighty Inch Boards
One hundred eighty 1½ In Planks
Two cubical Toises Stone
Twelve hundred 30*d* Nails
Eight hundred 10*d* do.
Six hundred 20*d* do.
Forty loads Sand.
Two thousand Shingles
Four thousand five hundred Shingle Nails
Seven hundred fifty panes glass 7½ by 8½
Eighty six lbs Putty
Forty two pairs Hinges
Forty two pairs Hooks & Eyes
One hundred fifty feet Oak Scantling 6 by 8
Twelve hundred Laths
Four thousand eight hundred Lath Nails
Two Bushels Hair

To renew the Picketting of the Citadel & Wood Yard & make three Iron Gates for water courses over which the picketting passes.

Carpenter's work	£ 28	
Laborer's do	19—10—0	
Smith's do	2—18—6	
		50— 8—6

Materials Necessary

Fourteen hundred Pickets 13 ft long
Twelve hundred feet Oak 5 in by 3 in
One hundred forty feet solid Oak
Five cwt 2½ In flat Iron
Four cwt one In square do.

To renew 2200 feet of decayed Picketting round the Town, repair the main Guard House and Mess House.

Carpenters work	£ 75—12—6	
Laborers do	47— 8—6	
Masons do	1— 7—6	
Painters do	1— 5—0	
		125—13—6

Materials necessary

Three thousand two hundred Pickets 14 ft long
Three thousand eight hundred ft Oak Scantling 5 in by 3 in.
Two hundred fifty solid feet Oak
Two hundred Bricks
Three Barrels Lime
Two loads Sand
One hundred fifty Laths
Six hundred Lath Nails
One Bushel Hair
Twelve 1½ In planks
Twenty four lbs Yellow Ochre
Fifteen lbs white Paint
Two lbs Black do.
Five gallons Linseed Oil
Two lbs glue

To repair the West Block-House, the Water Block-House & renew the west platform on the river side.

Carpenters work		£ 34—17—0
Masons	do	—18—6
Shinglers	do	2—10—0
Laborers	do	12— 8—0
		50—13—0

Materials necessary

Four hundred Bricks
Six Bushels Lime
Eighteen 2 In pine Plank
Twelve Inch Boards
Sixty four 3 In Plank
Four thousand Shingles
Twelve Thousand Shingle nails
Two Hundred 30*d* nails
Eighty 40*d* do
Five hundred 8*d* do
Four loads Sand
Eighteen pieces oak 10 ft long 10 by 12
Three hundred fifty ft. do 10 by 12
Seven hundred feet do 6 by 8

To rebuild three Block-Houses

Carpenter's work		£ 54—12—0
Masons	do	4—10—0
Laborers	do	7—10—0
Smiths	do	1—12—6
		64—4—6

Materials necessary

Twenty seven pieces oak 12 In square 10 feet long
Twenty four do 10 by 10 16 feet do
Twenty four do 8 by 8 16 feet do
Twenty six do 10 by 10 8 feet do
Fifteen hundred ft runng. 8 in thick 10 to 14 wide
Twelve hundred ft do 6 by 8
Twelve pieces pine 7 by 6 to 15 ft long
Six do 5 by 6 do
Sixty 3 In. oak plank 15 ft long
Thirty 2 In pine do
One hundred eighty In Boards
Two thousand four hundred shingles
Five thousand shingle nails
Two hundred sixty 40*d* do
Seven hundred 10*d* do
Three hundred eighty 7 In spikes
Fifteen hundred 8*d* nails
Twelve pair strong Hooks & Straps
Three Stock Locks
One cwt Iron
Three Cubical Toises Stone
Thirty Barrels Lime
Forty eight Loads Sand

To make thirty eight Ladders for the Barracks & three Centry Boxes.

Carpenters work	£ 19—7—0
Sawyers do	1—8—0
	20—15—0

Materials necessary

Nineteen pieces oak 26 ft long 5 by 6½
Nineteen do do 18 ft do
Six Oak Logs
One hundred fifty ft pine 6 in by 6 in
One hundred forty In Boards
Thirty two lbs 10*d* nails

To make twenty Travelling magazines & paint them, to repair the sling cart & paint 30 garrison, 4 Travelling carriages & 4—4⅘ In mortars.

Carpenters work	£	9—12—6
Painters do		6— 7—6
Smiths do		1—12—6
		17—12—6

Materials necessary

Two pieces ash
One piece oak 4 ft long 8 in by 8 in
One do do 10 do 8 by 10
One do do 7 do 5 by 14
Thirty feet ash 4 by 3
One hundred twenty Clout nails
Fifteen 8 In spikes
One cwt & a half Iron
One hundred two In pine plank
One hundred sixty yards canvas
Fifteen hundred 30*d* nails
Three Thousand Spunge Tacks
Twenty pair Hinges
Twenty hooks & Staples
Twenty Padlocks
One hundred forty four lbs white paint
Forty lbs Red do
Twenty eight lbs Black do
Eighteen lbs Lampblack
Thirty gallons Linseed Oil
Seven gallons Turpentine
One keg Putty
Two large Brushes, two small Brushes
Two Hair Pencils

Total.... £ 546—14—0

Amounting to Five Hundred and Forty six Pounds fourteen Shillings Currency.

BENJN FISHER
Capt Commg Rl Engrs.

Indorsed: Quebec 25th July 1792.
Estimate of the Repairs necessary to the Works & Buildings at Detroit in 1793.
In Lt. Govr. Clarkes of 5 Sep. 1792.

[Q 60, p 252]

Estimate of the Expense of sundry materials required for such repairs as are necessary to the Works & Buildings of the Post of Detroit p. Captain Fisher's Estimate.

Dated QUEBEC, 25th July, 1792.

	£	s	d	£	s	d
To repair the Works Picketting and Fraize at Fort Lernoult:						
400 running ft of 3 Inch pine plank @ 5d p ft.	8	6	8			
1420 do of 2 Inch @ 2½ per ft	14	15	10			
84 ft of 4 Inch Quartering @ 3d p do	1	1	0			
200 do of Oak Scantling 3 by 4 @ 4d p. do.	3	6	8			
300 do of Do Do 4 by 5 @ 4d p. do.	5	0	0			
200 do of Do Do 7 by 5 @ 5d p. do.	4	3	4			
100 of 2 Inch Oak Plank @ 2s 6d ea	12	10	0			
100 ft of running Oak 6 by 5 @ 6d p. ft.	2	10	0			
100 Do of Do 8 by 8 @ 7d p do.	2	18	4			
10 3 Inch Oak Planks @ 5s ea.	2	10	0			
1500 Cedar or Oak packets 6 in Diam. 12 ft long @ 2s ea.	150	0	0			
1700 Do Do 14 ft long @ 2s 1d ea	177	1	8			
1200 ft of Oak 6 by 4 @ 5d p ft	25	0	0			
1400 Do of Do 5 by 3 @ 4d p do.	20	6	8			
150 feet of Solid Oak @ 7½ p do	4	13	9			
200 of 5 Inch Spikes @ 2½ ea	2	1	8			
180 of 7 Inch Do @ 3d ea	2	5	0			
300 of 40d Nails @ 40s p. m.	----	12	0			
500 of 20d Do @ 14s p. m.	----	7	0			
				442	9	7
To repair the Barracks, Magazines, Guard Houses, Store rooms & Drains & renew the Spouts & Drip Boards round the Buildings:						
900 of Bricks @ 6s p hun.	2	14	0			
15 Barrels of Lime @ 10s p Bal.	7	10	0			
80 Inch Boards @ 1s 3d ea.	5	0	0			
120 1½ Inch Plank @ 2s ea.	12	0	0			
1300 feet of Scantling 7 by 5 @ 5d p foot	27	1	8			
4800 Shingles @ 30s p m.	7	4	0			
10000 of Shingle Nails @ 3s 6d p m.	1	15	0			
1600 of 20d nails @ 14s p do.	1	2	4			
3400 of 10d do @ 10s p do	1	14	0			
800 of 40d do @ 40s p m	1	12	0			
26 Loads of Sand @ 2s p Load	2	12	0			
24 Panes of glass 7½ by 8½ @ 6d ea.	----	12	0			

	£	s	d	£	s	d
4 lbs of Putty @ 10*d* p lb	-----	3	4			
1 Latch Hatch @	-----	2	-----			
cwt qr. lbs 1— 1— 0 of 2 In. Flat Iron @ 30*s* p cwt	1	17	6			
20— 0 of 1 In square Iron @ 30*s* p do	3	0	0			
250 Feather edged Boards @ 1*s* 3*d* ea.	15	12	6			
46—2 Inch Oak Plank @ 2*s* 6*d* ea	5	15	0			
15 Pieces Oak 15 feet long 9 in thick from 10 to 14 Inches wide @ 12*s* 6*d* ea	9	7	6			
2 Do Do 20 feet long 12 by 10 @ 11*s* ea	1	2	0			
200 of 7 Inch Spikes @ 3*d* ea	2	10	0			
				110	6	10
To make twenty four long and twenty four short Ladders for Barracks.						
Pieces of Oak 15 ft long 3 by 4 Inch @ 10*s*	24	0	0			
48 do of do 10 ft long do @ 6*s* 6*d*	15	12	0			
18 cubic feet of Oak @ 7½ p foot	-----	11	3			
				40	3	3
To build a shed to contain the fixed Ammunition 15 by 18 feet in the clear						
100 ft of running Oak 12 Inches square @ 7½ p foot	3	2	6			
450 Do Do 8 in thick 10 by 14 wide @ 7*d* p foot	13	2	6			
100 Do Do 7 by 5 inches @ 6*d* p Do	2	10	0			
30—2 Inch pine plank @ 2*s* 6*d* ea	3	15	0			
12—1 Inch Do @ 1*s* 3*d* ea	-----	15	0			
60—1 Inch Oak Boards @ 1*s* 9*d* ea	5	5	0			
300 of 20*d* nails @ 14*s* p m	-----	4	1			
400 of 10*d* nails @ 10*s* p do	-----	4	0			
1 pair Strong Hooks & Strap Hinges @ 2*s* 9*d*	-----	2	9			
1 Large Stock Lock @ 10*s*	-----	10	0			
				29	10	10
To repair the Barracks, Guard-room & Hospital in the Citadel						
1500 of Bricks @ 6*s* p hund	4	10	0			
20 Barrels of Lime @ 10 p B	10	0	0			
80 Inch boards @ 1*s* 3*d* ea	5	0	0			
180 1½ Inch plank @ 2*s* ea	18	0	0			
2 Cubical Toise of Stone @ 80*s* p. Toise	8	0	0			
1200 of 30*d* nails @ 16*s* p m	-----	19	2			
800 of 10*d* nails @ 10*s* p m	-----	8	0			
600 of 20*d* do @ 14*s* p do	-----	8	4½			
40 Loads of Sand @ 2*s* p Load	4	0	0			

	£	s	d	£	s	d
2000 of Shingles @ 60s p. m	3	0	0			
4500 of shingle nails @ 3s 6d p do		15	9			
750 panes of glass 7½ by 8½ @ 6d ea	18	5	0			
86 lbs of Putty @ 10d p lb	3	11	8			
42 pairs of Hinges @ 3s ea	6	6	0			
42 pairs of Hooks & Eyes @ 2s 6d	5	5	0			
150 feet of Oak Scantling 6 by 8 @ 5d p ft	3	2	6			
1200 of Laths @ 20s p Thd	1	4	0			
4800 of Lath Nails @ 3s 6d p do		16	9			
2 Bushels of Hair @ 3s p Bushel		6	0			
				93	18	2½
To renew the Picketting of the Citadel & Wood Yard and make three Iron Gates for Water Courses over which the Picketting passes.						
1400 picketts 13 ft long @ 2s ea	140	0	0			
1200 feet of Oak 5 by 3 Inches @ 6d ea	30	0	0			
140 feet of solid Oak @ 7½ p ft	4	7	6			
5 cwt of 2½ In Flat Iron @ 30s p cwt	7	10	0			
4 cwt of 1 Inch square Do @ 30s p do	6	0	0			
				187	17	6
To renew 2,200 feet of decayed Picketting round the Town, repair the Main Guard House & Mess house.						
3200 pickets 14 ft long @ 2s ea	320	0	0			
3800 ft Oak Scantling 5 by 3 @ 6d ea	95	0	0			
250 solid feet of Oak @ 7½ p ft	7	16	3			
200 of Bricks @ 6s p hun		12	0			
3 Barrels of Lime @ 10s p Bal	1	10	0			
2 Loads of Sand @ 2s p load		4	0			
150 Laths @ 20s p thd		3	0			
600 of Lath nails @ 3s 6d p do		2	1			
1 Bushel of Hair @ 3s		3	0			
12—1½ Inch Planks @ 2s ea	1	4	0			
15 lbs of White Paint @ 7½ p lb		9	4½			
2 lbs of Black Do @ 4s p lb		8	0			
5 gallons Linseed Oil @ 8s p gal	2	0	0			
2 lbs of glue @ 1s 6d p lb		3	0			
				430	18	[illegible]
To repair the West Block House, the Water Block House and renew the West Platform on the River side.						
400 of Bricks @ 6s per thous.	1	4	0			
6 Bushels of Lime @ 2s p Bus		12	0			
18—2 In pine plank @ 2s 6d ea	2	5	0			

	£	s	d	£	s	d
12 Inch Boards @ 1s 3d ea		15	0			
61—3 In Oak Plank @ 5s ea	16	0	0			
5000 of Shingles @ 30s p m.	7	10	0			
12000 of Shingle nails @ 3s 6d p m	2	2	0			
200 of 30d nails @ 16s p m		3	2			
80 of 40d do @ 40s p m		3	2			
500 of 8d do @ 4s p do		2	0			
4 Loads of Sand @ 2s p load		8	0			
16 pieces of Oak 10 ft long 10 by 12 @ 5s ea	4	0	0			
350 feet of do 10 by 12 @ 7d p ft	10	4	2			
700 feet of do 6 by 8 @ 6d p ft.	17	10	0			
				62	18	6
To rebuild the Block Houses						
27 pieces of Oak 12 Inches Square 10 ft long @ 5s 6d ea	7	8	6			
24 do of do 10 by 10—16 ft long @ 10s ea	12	0	0			
24 do of do 8 by 8—10 do @ 10s ea	12	0	0			
36 do of do 10 by 10—8 do @ 5s 4d ea	9	12	0			
1500 running feet of Oak 8 inches thick 10 to 14 in. wide @ 6d p ft	37	10	0			
1200 feet of do 6 by 8 @ 6d p do	30	0	0			
12 pieces of Pine 7 by 6 15 ft long @ 9s each	5	8	0			
6 do of do 5 by 6 do @ 8s ea	2	8	0			
60—3 Inch Oak Plank 15 ft long @ 5s ea	15	0	0			
30—2 Inch Pine do @ 2s 6d ea	3	15	0			
180 Inch Boards @ 1s 3d ea	11	5	0			
2400 Shingles @ 30s p m.	3	12	0			
5000 of Shingle nails @ 3s 6d p m		17	6			
260 of 40d nails @ 40s p do		10	4			
700 of 10d do @ 10s p do		7	0			
380—7 Inch Spikes @ 3d ea	4	15	0			
1500 of 8d nails @ 4s p m.		6	0			
12 pair of Strong Hook & Strap Hinges @ 2s 6d ea	1	10	0			
3 Stock Locks @ 10 ea	1	10	0			
1 cwt of Iron @ 30s	1	10	0			
3 Cubical Toise of Stone @ 80 p Toise	12	0	0			
30 Barrels of Lime @ 10s	15	0	0			
48 Loads of Sand @ 2s	4	16	0			
				193	0	4
To make thirty eight Ladders for the Barracks and seven Centry Boxes.						
19 pieces of Oak 26 ft long 5 by 6½ @ 15 ea	14	5	0			
19 do of do 18 ft long do do @ 12s 6d	11	17	6			

	£	s	d	£	s	d
6 Oak Logs @ 12s 6d ea	3	15	0			
150 feet of pine 6 by 6 ins @ 4d p ft	2	10	0			
140 Inch Boards @ 1s 3d ea	8	15	0			
32 lbs of 10d nails @ 6d p lb		16	0			
				41	18	6
To make twenty travelling Magazines and paint them, to repair the Sling Cart & paint 30 garrison, 4 travelling Carriages & 4—4 2-5 Inch Mortars.					4	
2 pieces of Ash @ 15s ea	1	10	0			
1 piece of Oak 6 ft long 8 by 8 in @ 4s		4	0			
1 do of do 10 ft do 8 by 10 do @ 6s 8d		6	8			
1 do of do 7 ft do 5 by 11 do @ 4s 8d		4	8			
30 feet of Ash 4 by 3 @ 7d p ft		17	6			
120 Clout nails, @ 4 p m			5			
15—8 Inch Spikes @ 5d ea		6	3			
1½ cwt of Iron @ 30s p cwt	2	5	0			
100 of 2 Inch plank pine @ 2s 6d ea	12	10	0			
160 yards of canvass a 1s 6d p yd	12	0	0			
1500 of 30d nails @ 10s p m	1	4	0			
3000 of Spunge Tacks @ 3s p do		9	0			
20 pairs of Hinges @ 3s ea	3	0	0			
20 Hooks & Staples @ 1s 3d ea	1	5	0			
20 Padlocks @ 2s 6d ea	2	10	0			
144 lbs White Paint @ 7½ lb	4	10	0			
40 lbs of Red do @ 7½ lb	1	5	0			
28 lbs of Black do @ 4d p lb	1	16	0			
18 lbs of Lamp Black @ 2s p lb	5	12	0			
30 gallons Linseed Oil @ 8s p gall	12	0	0			
7 do of Turpentine @ 10s p do	3	10	0			
1 Keg of Putty @ 30s	1	10	0			
2 large & 2 small Brushes @ 2s ea		8	0			
2 Hair pencils @ 1s ea		2	0			
				69	5	6
				1702	7	9

Amounting to one thousand seven hundred & two pounds seven shillings & nine pence currency. Dollar at five shillings. JOHN CRAIGIE,
Commg Genl.

Indorsed: No. 2.

Estimate of the expence of sundry materials required for such repairs as are necessary to the Works & Buildings of the Post of Detroit, p Captain Fisher's Estimate dated Quebec 25th July 1792. £1702—7—9. Currency.

In Lt. Govr. Clark's No. 43 of 5 Sept. 1792.

[Q 60, p 260]

QUEBEC 25th July 1792.

Estimate of the Expence of erecting the undermentioned Buildings at Detroit from the Report of Lieut Pilkington, Royal Engineer.

A Store House with apartments for the accommodation of the Artillery, Indian and Store Keeper General's Stores, to be framed & weather boarded 60 feet by 30 from out to out to consist of two stories the lower one to be 8 ft 6 in and the upper 7 ft in the clear.

Carpenter's Work	£72— 5—0	
Mason's do	3—15—0	
Sawyer's do	1—10—0	
Smith's do	3— 0—0	
Glazier's do	1— 0—0	
Labourer's do	3—15—0	
Shingler's do	8— 0—0	
		93—5—0

Materials necessary,

4 pieces Oak 34 ft long ea 12 by 10 In.
2 do do 30 ft do 12 by 10 In.
32 do do 17 ft do 10 In. Square
23 do do 17 ft do 7 by 6 In.
16 do do 30 ft long hew'd on one side 12 In. in Diameter
16 pieces pine 30 ft long 12 by 10 In.
11 do 32 do 10 by 8
4 do 32 do 10 by 8
4 do 34 do 10 by 8
4 do 30 do 10 by 8
16 pieces Pine 18 ft long 8 by 5 at the lower end & 5 by 5 at top.
4 do 25 ft long 7 by 6 Inches
300 feet running of pine 7 by 5 In.
1,000 Inch Boards
750 1½ Inch pine plank
12,000 Shingles
3,000 40d Nails
500 30d do
5,000 20d do
2,000 10d do
60 7 Inch Spikes
30,000 6d Shingle Nails
500 8d do

5 Cubic Toise of Stone
120 Bushels Lime
60 loads of sand
120 panes glass
15 lbs Putty
1½ cwt small flat Iron
1 cwt Square Iron
6 Stock Locks
8 pair strong Hooks & Straps.
5 pair small H Hinges
12 pair of Hinges for Shutters
6 Shutter Bolts
6 Door Bolts

A Storehouse for the Naval Stores, to be Log Work grooved & framed into upright Posts to be 50 feet long by 30 feet broad from out to out, to stand upon a stone foundation and to consist of two stories, the lower one to be 8 ft 6 In, and the upper 7 feet in the clear.

Carpenters Work	69— 0—0	
Shinglers do	7— 0—0	
Masons do	3—15—0	
Sawyers do	1—10—0	
Smiths	2—12—6	
Glaziers	1— 7—6	
Labourers	3—15—0	
		£89—0—0

Materials necessary.

2 pieces Oak 24 ft long 10 by 12 In.
4 do 30 do 10 by 12 In.
14 do 30 do 12 In. Diameter hewed on one side
18 do 17 do 12 Inches square
2,560 feet hewed Timber Oak or Pine 10 by 12 In.
12 pieces of Pine 30 ft long ea 10 by 12 In.
10 do 31 ft do 8 by 12 In.
26 do 18 ft do 7 by 6 In. at the lower end & 6 by 5 at the upper
4 do 24 ft long ea. 7 by 6 In.
300 ft running Pine 7 by 5 Inches
4 pieces Oak 30 ft long ea. } 10 In. Square
2 do do 24 ft do }

300	2 Inch Plank
300	1½ Inch Pine Plank
300	Inch Boards
10,000	Shingles
2,400	40d Nails
1,000	30d do
1,000	20d do
1,400	10d do
20,000	6d Shingle Nails
500	8d do
5	Cubic Toise of Stone
120	Bushels Lime
60	Loads Sand
1,060	Panes Glass
18	lbs Putty
1½	cwt flat Irons
½	cwt square Irons
1	Strong Stock Lock
1	pair strong H Hinges
16	pair of Hinges for Shutters
8	Shutter Bolts
2	Door Bolts
60	7 Inch Spikes

A Working Shed for the Riggers and a Sail Loft for the Naval Depmt. to be 60 feet by 30—

Carpenters Work	24— 0—0	
Shinglers do	8— 0—0	
Masons do	2— 2—6	
Glaziers do	0—12—6	
Labourers do	2— 2—6	
		37—17—6

Materials necessary

16	pieces of Oak 25 ft long 12 In. Diameter hewed on one side
4	pieces Oak 34 ft ea. 10 by 12 In.
2	do do do do 10 by 12 In.
4	do do do do 7 by 9 In.
2	do do 25 ft do 7 by 9 In.
4	do do 8 ft do 9 In. Square
9	do Pine 26 ft ea 6 by 8 In.
11	pair Rafters 16 ft ea 5 by 6 In.

4	pieces Oak 17 ft long ea 8 by 9 In.
6	do do do do 8 by 9 In. to be sawed for Studs 4 by 3 In.
600	Inch Boards
150	2 Inch Plank
12,000	Shingles
26,000	Shingle Nails
11,000	40d Nails
400	30d do
3,000	20d do
15,000	10d do
50	7 In. Spikes
4	Cubic Toise of Stone
96	Bushels Lime
45	Loads Sand
80	Panes of Glass
10	lbs Putty
6	pair strong Hooks & Straps
4	Shutter Bolts
2	Door Bolts
1	Stock Lock

Increased expence of Picketting by the projected Line for Inclosures, the Buildings proposed for the Naval Department.

Carpenters Work	£8—0—0	
Labourers do	6—0—0	
		£14—0—0

Materials necessary

400	Pickets
350	feet Oak Scantling 5 by 3 In.
40	Solid feet of Oak

Currency £233—2—6

Amounting to Two hundred and Thirty three Pounds, Two Shillings and Six Pence Currency.

BENJN. FISHER
Capt Commg Rl Engrs.

Indorsed: No. 3. Quebec 25th July 1792.
Estimate of the expence of erecting sundry Buildings at Detroit in 1793
In Lt. Govr Clarke's No. 43, of 5 Sept.

Estimate of the expence of sundry materials necessary for erecting the undermentioned Buildings at Detroit from the Report of Lieutenant Pilkington Royal Engineer included in Captain Fishers Estimate.

Dated QUEBEC 25th July 1792.

	£	s	d	£	s	d
A storehouse with apartments for the accommodation of the Artillery, Indian and Store Keeper General's Stores to be framed & weather boarded 60 feet by 30 from out to out, to consist of two Stories, the lower one to be 8 ft. 6 inches & the upper 7 feet in the clear.						
4 pieces of oak 34 ft long each 12 by 10 @ 20s ea	4	0	0			
2 Do of Do 30 ft do 12 by 10 @ 17s 6d ea	1	15	0			
32 Do of Do 17 ft do 10 In. square @ 10s	16	0	0			
23 Do of Do 17 ft do 7 by 6 Do @ 10s	11	10	0			
16 Do of Do 30 ft do hewed on one side 12 In. Diameter @ 17s 6d ea	14	0	0			
18 Pieces of Pine 30 ft long 12 by 10 In. @ 17s 6d	14	0	0			
11 Do of Do 32 do 10 by 8 @ 17s 9d	9	15	3			
4 Do of Do 22 do 10 by 8 @ 12s 6d ea	2	10	0			
4 Do of Do 34 do 10 by 8 @ 20s	4	0	0			
2 Do of Do 30 do 10 by 8 @ 17s 6d	1	15	0			
16 Do of Do 18 do 8 by 5 In at the lower end & 5 by 5 at the top @ 17s 6d ea	14	0	0			
4 Do of 25 ft long 7 by 6 Inches @ 15s ea	3	0	0			
300 feet running of Pine 7 by 5 In. 4d p ft	5	0	0			
1000 of Inch Boards @ 1s 3d ea	62	10	0			
700 of 2 Inch Plank @ 2s 6d ea	87	10	0			
150 1½ In. Plank pine @ 2s ea	15	0	0			
1200 of shingles @ 30s p m	18	0	0			
3000 of 40d nails @ 40s p m	6	0	0			
500 of 30d do @ 16s p m		8	0			
5000 of 20d do @ 14s p m	3	10	0			
2000 of 10d do @ 10s	1	0	0			
60 of 7 Inch spikes @ 2d ea		10	0			
30,000 of 6d shingle nails @ 3s 6d p m	5	5	0			
500 of 8d nails @ 4s		2	0			
5 Cubic Toise of Stone @ 80 p m	20	0	0			
120 Bushels of Lime @ 1s 8d p Bush	10	0	0			
60 Loads of Sand @ 1s p Load	3	0	0			
120 Panes of glass @ 6d ea	3	0	0			

	£	s	d	£	s	d
15 lbs Putty @ 10*d* p lb		12	6			
1½ cwt small flat iron @ 30*s* p cwt	2	5	0			
1 cwt square Iron @ 30*s* p do	1	10	0			
6 Stock Locks @ 7*s* 6*d* ea	2	5	0			
8 Pairs strong Hooks & Straps @ 2*s* 6*d* p pr	1	0	0			
5 do of small H. Hinges @ 3*s* p do		15	0			
12 Pair of Hinges for Shutters @ 2*s* p do	1	4	0			
6 Shutter Bolts @ 1*s* ea		6	0			
6 Door Bolts @ 1*s* ea		6	0			
				347	3	9
A Store House for the Naval Stores to be Log work, grooved & framed into upright posts to be 50 feet long by 30 ft broad, from out to out, to stand upon stone foundation and to consist of two stories, the lower one to be 8 ft 6 Inches & the upper 7 ft in the clear.						
2 pieces of oak 24 ft long 10 by 12 inches @ 17*s* ea	1	14	0			
4 Do of Do 30 ft do 10 by 12 In @ 20*s* ea	4	0	0			
14 Do of Do 30 ft do 12 in Diameter hewed on one side @ 17*s* 6*d* ea	12	5	0			
18 pieces of Oak 17 ft long 12 in sq. @ 10*s* ea	9	0	0			
2560 ft of hewed Timber oak or pine 10 by 12 in @ 6*d* p ft	64	0	0			
12 pieces of pine 30 ft long each 10 by 12 in @ 17*s* ea	7	10	0			
10 Do of Do 31 ft long each 8 by 12 in @ 17*s* 6*d* ea	8	15	0			
26 Do of Do 18 ft do @ 10*s* ea the lower end to be 7 by 6 & the upper 6 by 5	13	0	0			
4 Do of Do 24 ft long ea 7 by 6 in @ 12*s* 6*d* ea	2	10	0			
300 ft of running pine 7 by 5 @ 4*d* p ft	5	0	0			
4 pieces of oak 30 ft long ea 10 in sq @ 17*s* 6*d*	3	10	0			
2 do of Do 24 do ea 10 in sq @ 12*s* 6*d*	1	5	0			
300 of 2 Inch Plank @ 2*s* 6*d* ea	37	10	0			
300 of 1½ Inch do @ 2*s* ea	30	0	0			
300 of Inch Boards @ 1*s* 3*d* ea	18	15	0			
10000 of Shingles @ 30*s* p m.	15	0	0			
2400 of 40*d* nails @ 40*s* p m.	4	16	0			
1000 of 30*d* do		16	0			
1000 of 20*d* do		14	0			
2400 of 10*d* do 10*s* p m.	1	4	0			
2000 of 6*d* shingle @ 3*s* 6*d* p m.	3	10	0			
500 of 8*d* shingle @ 4*s* p m.		2	0			
5 Cubic Toise of Stone @ 8*d* p Toise	20	0	0			
120 Bushels of Lime @ 1*s* 8*d* p Bush	10	0	0			

	£	s	d	£	s	d
60 Loads of Sand @ 2s p Load	6	0	0			
160 panes of glass @ 6d ea	4	0	0			
18 lbs of Putty @ 10d p lb		15	0			
1¼ cwt flatt Iron @ 30s p cwt	2	5	0			
½ cwt square do @ 30s p cwt		15	0			
1 Strong Stock Lock		10	0			
4 pair strong H. Hinges @ 3s p pr		12	0			
16 do of Hinges for Shutters @ 2s 6d ea	2	0	0			
8 Shutter Bolts @ 1s ea		8	0			
2 Door Bolts @ 1s ea		2	0			
60 7-Inch Spikes @ 3d ea		15	0			
				292	18	0
A working shed for the Riggers and a Sail Loft for the Naval Department to be 60 feet by 30.						
16 pieces of oak 25 ft long in Diameter, hewed on one side @ 15s ea	12	0	0			
4 Do of Do 34 ft long ea 10 by 12 in 17s 6d ea	3	10	0			
2 Do of Do 25 ft do 16 by 12 in 15s ea	1	10	0			
4 Do of Do 34 ft do 7 by 9 in 17s 6d ea	3	10	0			
3 Do of Do 25 ft do 7 by 9 in @ 15s ea	1	10	0			
4 Do of Do 8 ft do 9 ins. sqr. @ 5s ea	1	0	0			
9 Do of Pine 26 ft do 6 by 8 in. @ 15s ea	6	15	0			
11 pairs Rafters 16 ft do 5 by 6 in @ 10s	5	10	0			
4 pieces of oak 17 ft ea 8 by 9 in @ 10s	2	0	0			
6 do of Do 17 ft ea 8 by 9 Do to be sawed for studds 4 by 3 in. @ 10s ea	3	0	0			
600 of Inch Boards @ 1s 3d ea	37	10	0			
150 2-Inch Plank @ 2s 6d ea	18	15	0			
50 1½-Inch Pine Plank @ 2s ea	5	0	0			
12000 of Shingles @ 30s p m.	18	0	0			
26000 of Shingle nails @ 3s 6d p m.	4	11	0			
1100 of 40d nails @ 40s	2	4	0			
400 of 30d do @ 16s		6	4			
3000 of 20d do @ 14s	2	2	0			
1500 of 10d do @ 10s		15	0			
50 7-Inch Spikes @ 3d ea		12	6			
4 Cubic Toise of Stone @ 80s	16	0	0			
96 Bushels of Lime @ 1s 8d	8	0	0			
45 Loads of Sand @ 2s	4	10	0			
20 Panes of glass @ 6d ea	2	0	0			

	£	s	d	£	s	d
10 lbs of Putty @ 10*d* p lb.		8	4			
6 Pairs Strong Hooks & Straps @ 2*s*		12	0			
4 Shutter Bolts @ 1*s* ea		4	0			
2 Door Bolts @ 1*s* ea		2	0			
1 Stock Lock		10	0			
				162	7	2
Increased expense of Picketting by the projected line for inclosing the Buildings proposed for the Naval Department.						
400 of Picketts @ 2*s* ea	40	0	0			
350 feet of Oak Scantling 5 by 3 @ 5*d* p ft	7	5	0			
40 Solid feet of Oak @ 7½*d* p ft	1	5	0			
				48	10	10
				850	19	9

Amounting to Eight hundred & fifty pounds, nineteen shillings & nine pence currency Dollar at five Shillings

John Craigie
Comy & Stkr Genl.

Indorsed: No. 3.

Estimate of the expence of sundry materials necessary for erecting Buildings at Detroit, included in Capt Fisher's Estimate, Dated Quebec 25th July 1792.

£850—19—9 Currency.

In Lt. Govr Clarke's No. 43, of 5 Sept. 1792.

[Q 60, p 273]

Quebec 25th July 1792

Abstract of Estimates for works and repairs proposed to be executed in the Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada in 1793 and also of repairs further necessary to the present Fortifications of Quebec.

				£	s	d
No 1. Michilimackinac		Workmanship	79—18—6			
		Materials	287—18—9	367	17	3
No 2. Detroit	Works	Workmanship	506—14—0			
		Materials	1702— 7—9	2249	1	9
	Buildings	Workmanship	233— 2—6			
		Materials	850—19—9	1084	2	3

Benjn Fisher
Capt. Commdg. Rl. Engrs.

N. B.—The Prices of Materials in this Country often vary very essentially according to the Seasons and circumstances under which they are provided. It is probable that many of the articles might be obtained for less than stated in the above estimates if time was allowed to collect them at the proper seasons and in the cheapest manner.

JOHN CRAIGIE
Comg & S. M. Genl.

[Q 60, p 222]

SIR JOHN JOHNSON TO LIEUT. GOV. ALURED CLARKE.

QUEBEC 28th July 1792.

SIR,

And as far as circumstances will admit of it, the Requisitions for the various Posts, and stations should be as nearly similar as possible to those lately approved, if possible they should be gradually reduced to what the Six Nations signified to me, in Public Council, soon after the declaration of Peace was all that they would, or could in reason expect, Clothing for the Widows and Orphans of those who had fallen in Battle, and for those who were maimed in His Majesty's Service, as well as for the old and infirm who were rendered incapable of providing for themselves.

And that the greater Regularity and order may be observed, and that the Storekeeper General may be enabled to be regular in his Returns, I would recommend as most condusive to those ends, that requisitions as above described be Annually made, not only by Senior Agent, Colonel McKee, of Upper Canada, but by Colonel Campbell the Agent of Lower Canada also, and that no other issues whatever shall be made from the general store but upon very urgent occasions, and that by Requisition to be approved by the Commander in Chief, after an explanation of the urgency and necessity of the Issue.

All Requisitions & orders for provisions to be made out and receipts signed by the Agents in their respective Provinces. If this mode should be approved by Your Excellency, I have no doubt

but it will obviate all difficulties and promote what has ever been my first object, His Majesty's service

I have the honor to be with
great regard & esteem
Your Excellency's
Most obedt. humble Servant
JOHN JOHNSON.

His Excelly Major Genl Clarke, &c. &c. &c.

Indorsed:
In Lt. Govr. Clarke's No. 54. of 3d Octr. 1792.

[Q 61-2, p 349]

LIEUT. GOV. ALURED CLARKE TO HENRY DUNDAS.

[No. 38.] QUEBEC 29th July 1792.

SIR,

Sir John Johnson having informed me, as Commander of His Majesty's Forces in America, that he had received through Colonel Simcoe, the King's gracious permission to be absent from his duty in this Country, and that he was preparing to go to England in consequence thereof, I avail myself of the opportunity he offers of expressing how much I regret the necessity of his absence from the Department over which he has so long presided with a degree of influence and zeal that do him great credit, and where his services might every day become more and more useful from the unsettled and critical Situation of Indian Affairs. I, however derive great satisfaction from knowing that his presence will afford you the means of obtaining more ample information of every matter relative to that important branch of His Majesty's Service in America, and that in a much more satisfactory manner than I could possibly convey to you by letter.

I have the honor to be with great respect
Sir,
Your most obedient
and most faithful
humble Servant
ALURED CLARKE.

The Right Honble Henry Dundas.

P. S. Some late accounts are just received from Detroit relative to Indian Affairs, the particulars whereof, it is unnecessary for me

to detail, as Sir John Johnson will have the honor of communicating them to you.

A. C.

Indorsed: Quebec 29th July 1792.
Lt. Govr. Clarke No. 38.
R. 29 Augt. by Sir John Johnson.

[Q 60, p 7]

CAPT. JOSEPH BRANT TO JOSEPH CHEW.

Extract of a Letter from Captain Joseph Brant to Joseph Chew Secretary of Indian Affairs Dated at Niagara 1st August 1792.

"The Americans still claim the Line for a Boundary according to the Treaty at Muskingum, and seem determined upon having it, but say if it can be made appear that the purchase was made under value, they are willing to make restitution, this I argued much against, and alleged that nothing but a new Boundary would have the effect desired."

"By De Couyne who is gone to the Westward I advised as to the steps I thought best to pursue, and have wrote fully to Colonel McKee on the subject of my Jaunt."

In my letters to you I mentioned a coat that was sent up for Captain Snake. he is not able to wear it for fear of making others jealous, I could wish three or four more were sent up, and some Green Cloth for a short Coat or two for the Delaware Chiefs, also the Silver Works &c I spoke to Sir John about, I expect to go to the Westward when I hear from Colo McKee. Get the Pistols Mr. Hall's partner brought from England for me and pray send them as soon as possible as I may have occasion for them."

"There is not much appearance of the American Army moving until late, they wishing to have their Troops better disciplined than they were last Campaign."

Indorsed: No. 5.
In Lt. Govr. Clarke's No. 46, of 29 Sept. 1792.

[Q 61-1, p 167]

JOHN CRAIGIE TO MAJ. GEN. CLARKE.

QUEBEC 2nd August 1792.

SIR,

Your Excellency having communicated to me a Memorial from certain Merchants at Kingston, to His Excellency Lieut Governor

Simcoe dated the 22d Ult. wherein they offer to deliver a large quantity of Flour at that place for the use of Government, together with Colonel Simcoe's letter to you on the subject. I am induced (in compliance, as I conceive, with Your Excellency's desire) to state my observations on what has formerly taken place respecting this object at some length, altho' Your Excellency is already fully possessed of it, with a view to Colonel Simcoe's more perfect information.

Since the beginning of the year 1786 in consequence of representations from the settlers in Upper Canada, I have been ordered to receive the supplies of Flour required for the Troops at the Upper Posts, from the several adjoining settlements, as far as they could furnish the same. There being a contract made by the Board of Treasury in England for the provisions necessary for the Troops in Canada, to be delivered at Quebec or Montreal; the Contractors consented to give for such supplies of Flour delivered at the Upper Settlements the market price in Lower Canada, and as an additional encouragement to the agriculture of that new country, there was further allowed to the settlers a chief part of the expence that would have been incurred in transporting the article from Lachine by Government.

In order that the advantage of these high terms might be enjoyed by those for whom this benefit was intended, it has, by order of the Commander in Chief at all times been an object of principal consideration to receive the Flour at first hand from the Settlers and to avoid as much as possible any interference or dealings with the Merchant.

From circumstances peculiar to the Settlements in the neighbourhood of Niagara & Detroit, It has been necessary to have recourse, for these two years past, to Kingston, for a part of the supply of Flour for these Posts; It appears probable that this year they will be able to furnish the whole quantity required and if they can, there would certainly be great hardship in withholding from them their share of the advantages which have hitherto been in some measure enjoyed exclusively by the Settlements at Kingston.

If the Merchants at Kingston have given the high price of fifteen shillings pr. cwt. for Flour, the Settlers have no doubt enjoyed great benefit from it, but that can be no sufficient reason, why Government should indemnify them from the consequences of an engagement entered into without the participation thereof, and in fact apparently calculated to defeat the intentions of Government

It will remain with Your Excellency to determine whether in a Military point of view any addition to the stock of provisions for the Posts, would be expedient. By the actual Distributions, they are provided to the 1st October 1793.

In regard to laying in a stock of Flour beforehand, as a provision for Emigrants that may be expected to resort to Upper Canada, there can be little doubt that sufficient supplies may be with ease provided for any number of people, should instructions be given to that effect; and it is to be observed that if these people are to depend on their own resources, any interference in the Flour market would only tend to increase their difficulties.

Taking the object therefore under every point of view, I cannot hesitate for a moment in giving my opinion that the proposal in question of the Merchants of Kingston ought not to be accepted.

I feel myself further called upon by the occasion to represent to Your Excellency, that it was from the first moment foreseen, that the encouragement afforded to the Settlers, in the allowance in part of the expence of Transport from Lachine would become impartial and therefore improper, whenever the settlement should be able to furnish more flour than was required for the supply of the Posts. That, as Your Excellency will recollect, for these two last years, it has been in contemplation to discontinue the present high rates which have only been allowed from time to time, and in the view that they should soon altogether cease. And as it is now sufficiently obvious as well from the above proposal as from every information, that the Flour to be furnished in Upper Canada greatly exceeds the demand for the Posts I think it my duty to submit, whether it might not be expedient to provide in future the supplies wanted for the Troops on the best Terms, and for that purpose, to give notice that tenders will be received at the several settlements, as soon as the event of the present Harvest can be with precision ascertained, for the quantities of Flour wanted for the different Posts to be delivered there in June and July 1793.

I have the honor to be &c. &c. &c.

JOHN CRAIGIE,
D. Commr. General.

His Excellency Major General Clarke, &c. &c. &c.

Endorsed: Copy of a letter from the Commissary General to His Excelly Major General Clarke, dated at Quebec 2d August 1792.
In Lt. Govr. Simcoe's of the 19th Decr. 1794.
In Lord Dorchester's No. 25 to Colonel Simcoe.

[Q 281-1, p 49.]

LIEUT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE RESPECTING INDIANS AND POSTS.

NAVY HALL, NIAGARA, August 20th 1792.

SIR,

I am to acknowledge the receipt of my dispatches from Mr. Dundas, and of Your Excellency's Letter of the 18th of July delivered by Mr. Foy.

I presume that my letters from Mr. Dundas dated the 5th of May are counter parts of what have been transmitted to Your Excellency.

As you intimate a wish to know my sentiments relative to the dispatches I have received from Mr. Hammond, by which I presume that you mean a copy of that Gentleman's letter to Lord Grenville of the 8th of June 1792, I lose no time in submitting to you my opinion thereon.

I beg to premise that Colonel McKee having personally brought to me your Excellency's directions, to suspend his calling the Western Indians together, for the purpose of ascertaining their Boundary, and assuring me that Colonel Butler could not have received any orders relative to the Assembly of the Five Nations, I thought it unnecessary to report to Your Excellency on this subject, as Sir John Johnson, naturally would have informed you, that he had sufficient time to execute your orders before Colonel McKee had left Montreal; and particularly as Mr. Hammond, with whom discretion was vested by His Majesty's Ministers to offer the propositions to be made to the United States had determined it not to be a favorable period for that measure.

I feel it however both my duty & inclination to state, to Your Excellency, such general reasoning, and such particular Ideas, as occur to me on an attentive perusal of Lord Grenville's late dispatches to Mr. Hammond; that Gentleman's answer; and those documents, which by the last dispatch I have received from Mr. Dundas; because it appears necessary that His Majesty's Ministers should receive the most ample Information on points of such infinite magnitude from the servants of the Crown upon the spot, and because I should wish that the opinions which I think it my duty to offer, may be transmitted as approved or corrected by Your Excellency's local experience or mature Judgement. My long and uniform observations on the rules of the United States has never suffered me to hold but one opinion on the subject of all our attempts at negociation with them, which is, that they mean nothing less than amicable arrangement on the subject of the *Posts*,

and that they will never consent to any Commercial Treaty whatsoever, that may be of reciprocal benefit—And that if Great Britain shall deem it necessary to effectuate either, on fair and equal principles, she can never succeed until Messrs. Washington, Jefferson and Hamilton have lost the direction of the affairs of the Confederation, and this I believe it will be less difficult to effect, by aiming at once to dissolve the Confederacy, than by any other secondary or indirect means.

With such a firm and uniform belief, I am not in the least surprized to find that Mr. Hammond has no hopes of success in a plan that would secure the present generation, and provide for the happiness of Posterity; nor do I in the least wonder that in his conversation, Mr. Hamilton, without entering into any arguments should cooly and briefly reply "That any plan that compre-"hended any thing like cession of territory, or right, or the allow-"ance of any other power to interfere in the disputes with the "Indians, would be considered by this Government as absolutely "impracticable and inadmissable." At once shewing a predetermined spirit not only to preclude Great Britain from all mediation in behalf of the Independant Indian Nations, but also not to admit a discussion of her own right to maintain the *Posts*. I am therefore, as far as concerns Mr. Hamilton, justified in what I have always maintained, that if the present Government of the United States is the only medium by which Great Britain is to obtain amicable alliance, peace, commerce, or *security* with the United States I cannot but anticipate the most absolute miscarriage in the attempt.

In respect to Mr. Jefferson; Mr. Hammond informs Lord Grenville that, He asserts not only the Right of Pre-emption in the United States of the Indian Territory, which Great Britain by the Treaty, admitted, but claims internal Jurisdiction to prevent all but those under passes from the States, "inhabiting," by which is meant trading in the Indian Country, in direct contravention to the Treaty of Utrecht which defined the nature of the Indian Sovereignty and the infraction of which Gordon (Mr. Washington's Partizan) in his History Vol 1st p 99 properly describes to have been the occasion of the war of 1754—from this claim as Mr. Hammond infers, the Government of the United States would naturally regard any Grant of the Indian Soil in perpetuity, not only as a dereliction of Right, but also as a sacrifice "of a part of its Territory."

The leading men in the Government of the United States having so perfectly agreed; Mr. Jefferson claiming as a *Right* the exclusion

of all persons except under the authority of the States from "Inhabiting" (which is necessary I conceive to trading with the Indians) within the Indian Territory as yielded by the Treaty Line to the United States and Mr. Hamilton saying "that any plan that "comprehends anything like a cession of right or mediatorial "interference is inadmissible," I am warranted in writing these gentlemen as determined enemies of Great Britain; the one Jefferson I know, avows his Hostility, the other Hamilton, insiduously disguises it; and I think that Mr. Hammond on these communications alone has acted most Judiciously in not offering (Ministerially) the proposed plan on the part of Great Britain.

But, Sir, I am far from thinking that no offer should be made to the United States of a Boundary Line, which without the direct appearance of mediation, and interference in behalf of the Indians, might embrace as a general principle, the preventing future misunderstandings among the Possessors of this part of America, and I should suppose, that such a plan must naturally originate from the mutual explanations & discussions which have lately taken place between Mr. Hammond and the Government of the United States, and which, as the result of these conferences, would not affect the Pride of the People, equally as if they bore the appearance of solely arising in consequence of their recent check in the Indian Warfare; and this place might surely be of such a nature, as should fairly and naturally be made known to the people at large, without which, I am certain all overtures on the part of Great Britain will be misrepresented and rendered ineffectual. And this I conceive should be done without loss of time.

I am sorry that an open & avowed mediation did not follow the check of Harmar, in the former year, or the recent defeat of St Clair. It would have strengthened the opposition to the raising of the force now destined against the Indian Nations. I am confirmed in the justness of my opinion by a late conversation with Joseph Brant. He said "it was unfortunate for the Indians that no one had detailed the "calamities and cruelties they had undergone, and what they had to "invalidate those treaties by which the States claimed their Lands." He added, "such a publication would strengthen the arguments of "those who opposed an Indian war;" I understood from him that Mr. Clinton, the Governor of New York, had held this Language to him.

I therefore do conceive that a proposition immediately brought forward to explain and amend the Treaty line upon the basis on which

it is stated to have been formed "liberal equity and reciprocity," to do away what has no existence, such as a west line drawn from the Lake of the Woods to the Mississippi; what could become null and of no effect, the free and reciprocal use of the navigation of that River (provided by Mr. Jefferson's principle the British Trader had no right to pass through the Indian Country to its Banks) and that should establish a more precise Boundary on the cession of the use of that, or other Rights, so as to use the words of the Treaty "to exclude all partial advantages as seeds of discord"—and to form a certain and defined Barrier; such a proposition would necessarily include in it the consideration of the state of the Indians, and during the course of the ensuing winter might possibly produce the effect of terminating the disturbances, particularly if, as seems probable, General Wayne shall employ himself solely in disciplining and arranging his army, and not advance into the Country, if this purpose cannot be effected through the Government of the United States, the fair principles of our propositions I should conceive might then be universally promulgated and made known, and which would most certainly strengthen the British Interests, both in the United States and Great Britain, and would reduce the present question to its real merits which seem totally to have been lost sight of in the United States, and even in Great Britain, namely, whether the United States having failed on their part in doing Great Britain justice in most essential points of the treaty of peace, has not Great Britain a right to withhold the evacuation of certain Posts till the Stipulation on which they were to be evacuated shall be complied with? and it would not only force the Government of the United States prematurely to acknowledge that it has no intention of fulfilling its part of the Treaty, but would confirm what there is every reason to expect from the universal Language of all descriptions of men in the United States from circumstances and from Knox's Instructions to St Clair, that Congress is laying in wait till some fortunate occurrence shall enable it to seize by fraud or open violence what is so justly & reasonably with held. There is no Person perhaps who thinks less of the Talents or Integrity of General Washington than I do; a laudable attachment to his native Country as well as his natural avarice & vanity, two principal Ingredients in his Character, might account for his anxiety to establish the Capital of the United States near his own Estate, and in Virginia; but I have little doubt but his conduct on these particulars is actuated by cool deliberation & foresight and that the Capital in

Virginia (its confines). The Indian War and the standing army, all tend to one point, namely the joining the Western and Southern Territories to oppose the encrease of power of the Eastern (Northern) States; whose Industrious Domineering and Enterprising Spirit added to the superior advantages of Climate, will without this Balance, in no very distant period absolutely command their present Confederates. Should Mr. Washington and his Colleagues succeed in their present attempt to colonize on the Ohio; I doubt not but the strictest act of navigation throughout the Confederation will take place, to flatter and consolidate the Eastern with the Southern and Western States, and that the Government of the whole will through Mr. Washington and his Colleagues sooner or later center in the hands of the French.

It is to be observed that the Posts we hold, Oswego, Detroit, Michilimackinac, and I presume Niagara, are in the Territories belonging to the Conquest, as a Confederation, and are called by them *Territorial Districts*, no settlement on these Lands can be made without the permission of Congress; no attack on these Posts can take place without involving the whole confederation in its consequences.

It is obvious therefore, that when Congress complains of the want of Power to prevent the infraction of the Treaty by the separate States of the union, it possesses sufficient authority over those Districts within the Treaty Line, to prevent their becoming any cause of contention, and particularly as Great Britain restrains herself to the simple occupation of the Posts without a thought of extending the cultivation of the territories.

But I am well aware that Congress neither possesses the magnanimity of the Roman Senators of old, who in a similar instance, would not stoop to be the Instruments of the base conduct of the people they governed, nor the fidelity of the British Nations from whom they sprung, but at a favorable opportunity would declare, that it was not bound by the act of their Predecessors, and probably would use the very expressions of Mr. Washington to an Indian delegation. "I am "not uninformed the Six Nations have been led into some difficulties "with respect to their Lands, these evils arose before the present "Government, I cannot disannul treaties formed before my administra-"tion."

The consideration & establishment of a boundary line towards Lake Champlain concerning which differences have already arisen, seems the principal object of the attention of His Majesty's Ministers, and

unfortunately forms a very distinct & separate subject for observation. The Territories beyond the treaty line in this Quarter, now withheld by Great Britain are principally in the State of Vermont and do not in any manner belong to Congress as *territorial Jurisdictions;* The primary cause of dispute must therefore originate with the State of Vermont & involve in it the question of right of property, in the actual Settlers, and of a Jurisdiction, where as yet the province of Canada has never been extended; nor will the mischief of such a contest in its relations be more impolitic, than it seems to be peculiarly violent in its principle; of all the boundaries a dispute on those of the State of Vermont only, would interest the Eastern Colonies, from whom they are descended, in its consequences nor are there any very powerful considerations to prevent the people of Vermont themselves from the Hazard of war.

Vermont has nothing to lose; and in this point of view, her separation from New York, and ultimately her confederation with the United States, may become very injurious to the Interests of Great Britain as it must be obvious, that in case of unprovoked Hostility, the subjects of the United States *must* be convinced by experience in the destruction of their property of the fallacy on what they build in common conversation "That the injury which "thereby would accrue to the British Merchants will always prevent "Great Britain from resenting any National insult or aggression that "may be offered in Canada," and this destruction in case of hostilities ought to happen, unless Great Britain should divest herself of every principle on which her Supereminence has been placed, Sacrifice to a precarious commerce, the Interests of posterity, and tamely negociate herself into a Bankruptcy of all that is stable or honorable in her present situation.

In every point of view therefore, the Settlement of a Boundary with the State of Vermont is of the most serious & Instantaneous importance, and I do hope that if a general Line be not the object of Mr. Hammond's interposition; and that the principle on which it shall be made be not so extensive, as to embrace the whole of Lord Grenville's Ideas, that this point will be the subject of separate discussion, and for this a favorable opportunity has been offered by the transactions of Congress relative to Alburgh; and the Quarrels between Mr. Conroy and his neighbours, which seem to require Explanation and Settlement; the extent of their boundaries I conceive tho' an important, but as a secondary object, and may include what is in the State of Vermont only, without passing the New

York line; but if it should be founded on Captain Mann's Ideas, I hope, it will be so protracted as to include at the least, all the Islands in the St Lawrence, it is needless for me to enter into any Military views, as the Civil ones are of so much more importance and Your Excellency is well acquainted on what points, I differ from other opinions on Military subjects.

Another very important Boundary is that of *Niagara* and *Detroit*. Military Ambition has generally taken the Lines of Nature, for its limits, but Rivers and Seas are fertile in all the Quarrels that attach on the Jealous & Monopolizing Spirit of Commerce; and the late Treaty Line seems not to have sufficiently secured either the present generation, or posterity, from the Collision of Interests, consequent to the common passage thro' these narrow communications. This Evil, I fear, is irremediable; Upper Canada at any rate has the possession. and every hour will strengthen it—besides it is far from being my opinion. that better passages to the Detroit and Huron than that of Niagara will not shortly become practicable.

To sum up my opinion which I have detailed at length, that it may be clearly understood, I conceive that Mr. Hammond should *immediately* be directed to make some proposition to amend the treaty line; that this should be as extensive as possible in order that the arrangement of the Indian claims, might be introduced, in consequence of its discussion, but, if so general a ground be not thought practicable, that at least, the boundary of Vermont be settled: which I hold to be of more immediate importance, and to effect any good purpose, I conceive that Mr. Washington's influence, and that of his friends, should be lessened as much as possible, this may be difficult, but it is not impracticable; the attempt must be made sooner or later, it ought now to be begun. Should Great Britain not succeed in her wish for amicable arrangement, she would have the advantage of laying down fair and equal propositions, to be universally known & commented upon; which could not fail materially to serve her cause; for with proper provisions I should perfectly rely on the hopes of Lord Dorchester "that the wisdom and utility of the system would "be so evident to the good sense of the United States as to con-"quer every difficulty on their part" it is to this good sense, that I wish the appeal to be made, and to that morality, which is by no means defective in the general mass of the United States, tho' it is not exemplified in the characters, the conduct or object of their Leaders; but this appeal must be made thro' the Press, which from the commencement of the American Rebellion, to its Inde-

pendancy, and the present moment, has been totally in the hands of the Government. It is true, that of late, the morality and wisdom of the Indian War has been questioned; but in answer to the many profligate & inflamatory paragraphs which have been written to stir up the People against the British Government for not evacuating the *Posts*, can there be produced a single answer that states the question on its fair grounds and asserts the Justice & propriety of the United States fulfilling the Treaty on their part? Some such measures must speedily be adopted, some such appeal to popular Reasoning must be made, or I am convinced that Great Britain will sooner or later be forced into a Contest, deprived of collateral assistance, in the Indians being subdued, and probably turned against her, and deprived of National Union; as the claims of the United States to the completion of the Treaty, if not soon denied, will be universally considered as irrefragably established.

Should Congress adopt a Prince of the House of Brunswick for their future President or King, the happiness of the two nations would be interwoven and united—all jealousies removed & the most durable affections cemented that perhaps ever were formed between two Independant Nations.

This is an object worthy the attention of Great Britain and which many of the most temperate men of the United States have in contemplation. And which many events, if once systematically begun, may hasten & bring to maturity.

I have the honor to be
with the utmost Respect & Esteem
Your Excellency's
most obliged and
most obedt Servt.
J. Graves Simcoe.

Indorsed: No. 6.

[Q 61–1, p 169]

COL. A. MC KEE TO GOV. J. G. SIMCOE.

Foot of Rapids Miamis August 24th 1792.

Sir,

Upon my arrival at this place a few days ago accompanied by the several Nations of Lake Indians together with the Deputies of the Seven Nations of Canada, an Indian from the Glaize came to

inform me, that some of their Scouts have lately returned from the neighbourhood of Fort Jefferson (an American Post 74 miles North of the Ohio) and report, that they are enlarging that Fort and some distance from thence towards the Miamies Town are about erecting another Fort, and that large Reinforcements and military Stores and Provisions in great quantities are dayly arriving at those places, which inclines the Indians to believe that an expedition is intended against their Village as soon as the near Fort is finished in consequence of which they have sent Messengers to call upon the assistance of all their Confederates, as well this way as to the Westward. And the Nations from the Westward have already offered their assistance and are now collecting their force, so there is reason to believe from what I am able to learn among them that their numbers will be greater this season than heretofore, notwithstanding the great pains taken to divide their Interest by many flattering Speeches on the part of the United States, declaring their desire for Peace and insinuating a removal of their posts North of the Ohio, but all their Speeches will have but little credit with the Western Indians whilst their preparations to establish themselves within their Territory are continued.

These reports will retard the meeting at this place as the Indians will be cautious in leaving their villages for some time and render the delivery of their annual supplies late.

The nations who accompanied me to this place are now about removing to the Council Fire at the Glaize to transact their business there, from the probable delay that will attend the meeting here, I am however sending a messenger to the Glaize to know the situation of the Indians there and what time they will be able to attend at this place to receive their supplies.

Anything worth your notice, I shall not fail to transmit from time to time.

I have the honor to be
with the greatest respect
Sir &ca

A. McKee.

His Excellency Governor Simcoe, &ca. &ca.

Indorsed: No. 4.
In Lt. Govr. Clarke's No. 46 of 29th Septr 1792.

[Q 60-1, p 160]

JOURNAL.

Journal of William Johnson's proceedings from Niagara to the Westward.

1792, 29th August. Left Niagara in company with captain Bunbury & arrived at Fort Erie on the 30th where after remaining two days set sail for Detroit on board the Chippawa Captain Hanon, having the 65 Indians of the Five Nations on board and arrived at that port the 4th September, and on the 8th again left it in company with Captain Bunbury and the same number of Indians for the Miamis River, and on the evening of the same day landed at the Miami Bay and on the 9th September all the Indians were disembarked and crossed the Bay in Boats, a distance of 7 miles, and on the 10th proceeded up the River some in boats, and others on Foot, to the foot of the Miami Rapids, a distance of about 14 miles, where I found Col. McKee.

Sep. 11. Col. McKee met the 5 Nations in Council, and informed them that 2 days previous to that, the Confederate nations, departed in their way to the Glaize, about 60 miles up the River, where the Indians intended to convene the Grand Council on account of the daily alarms brought of the Americans being on their approach as some of them had been seen about the former field of Battle.

The Indians were then of opinion, that they had resolved to surprize some of their Villages as they had frequently done before.

15th. *Captain John* a Shawenoes Chief, accompanied by 4 Shawenoes and 3 Senecas came here and congratulated the Five Nations on their safe arrival.

17. The Five Nations in Council met Captain Pipe a Delaware Chief attended by above 40 Delawares, when after their usual ceremonies of their Condolence at their first meeting. The purport of their Council was respecting the murder of two Delawares by some of the five Nations and a party of the Americans near Venango on the Alleghany—The Cow Killer, the speaker for the 5 Nations, after going through a long detail of the Different Circumstances attending the first settlement of the White People in their Country, the Wars, between France and Great Britain, and the late Dissentions with the Americans in which they had been involved, said that the Hatchet was taken from their Hands by the King their Father, and that they were left in the Disagreeable situation of making peace for themselves, in consequence of which a kind of Intercourse had taken place between some of their young men, and

the Americans, and unknown, to their Chiefs, had been persuaded to go on service with them. The Five Nations hoped the Delawares would blot out from their memories this late offence, being the first that had happened on their part. As the Forefathers of the Five Nations had taken them by the hand, and adopted them as Nephews, they hoped that they now looked upon them as uncles. The Delawares in a Body rose up, shook hands and saluted them in a very friendly manner.

18th. The Delawares next day in Council met the 5 Nations, they were happy and thankful to them, that they remembered the intimacy and connection, that once subsisted with their Forefathers, if this remembrance was kept up, it was impossible their uncles would go astray, but could not help remarking a certain blemish in their eyes, at the same time returned the Five Nations their hearty thanks for what they had remembered them of; The Five Nations then took a Belt to cover the Graves and obliterate every remembrance of past Injuries, and another to open the road between them and the Council Fire. The Delawares mentioned at that time they were not able to proceed owing to sickness but that when they heard the Enemy were approaching they would rise from their beds.

21st. This day the Five Nations proceeded on their way to the Glaize leaving behind the Farmer's Brother sick, and 3 others; a number of the 7 Nations of Lower Canada, at the same time return to Detroit in their way to Lower Canada, they complained to Colonel McKee of a want of provisions altho' they had plenty and even gave and left behind them provisions to other Indians mentioning they in Lower Canada were accustomed to another mode of living; The other Indians however afforded them every assistance in their power.

23d Sept. This day Colo McKee received a message from the Indians at the *Glaize* wishing his attendance there. In consequence of which I was ordered there Immediately and arrived on the 24th and on my road met a number of Ottawas tired with waiting for the general Council, going homewards, towards Lake Erie—on my arrival at the Glaize, I was told 30 Hurons and other Nations were gone to war, on same day the 5 Nations arrived at the *Glaize*, and went thro' their usual ceremonies with the Nations who had been in that quarter for some time congratulated the Five Nations on their arrival at that place.

25th. Nothing occurred worthy of notice.

27th. This day Colo. McKee, Captain Bunbury and Mr. Selby arrived at the Glaize.

28th. The Farmers Brother a principal Chief of the Senecas who had been sick arrived from the foot of the Rapids.

30th. All the different Nations this day meet in General Council amongst nothing to my knowledge Transpired.

2d Oct. All the Confederate Nations met the Five Nations in Council, and congratulated them as before. A Shawanoes Speaker addressed them in manner as follows.

The Confederate Nations are happy to see you the Five Nations at this our Great Council Fire; You formerly advised us to be determined in our minds, and that all of our Colour should cement ourselves in one body and speak with one voice, and that one nation should do no Business without the consent of the whole, and if one should receive a blow that the smart should be felt by the whole Confederacy. You advised us to this step and we have followed it implicitly and exerted ourselves as much as possible to the Southward to influence our Brethren in that Quarter in our cause, and we are still of the same opinion determined to remain steadfast to the Original Cause; That they were now ready to hear what the Five Nations and Seven Nations of Lower Canada had to say to them, and they trusted they would speak from their hearts, as many were present, who were now going to the Southward; and would Report in that Quarter the result.

4th. Six Hurons arrived with two Scalps taken at Fort Jefferson, and same day all the Indians met in Council when the Five Nations addressing the different Nations of the Confederacy, said that they had now come to that Quarter on account of the many Invitations that had been sent them, that the King their Father had all along strongly recommended it to remain peaceable and that they had as yet followed their advice, and they now strongly recommend them, if they could make an advantageous peace, by all means to endeavour to bring it about, That they were highly pleased and it give them pleasure that they their Western Brethren had so nobly defended their Country, and as Indians they now thanked them for their exertions in the general Interest:—They were sensible that the Ohio River was an excellent Natural Boundary and recommended them at the Risk of their Life to abide by this Line, that the Americans to them had always professed terms of accommodation and solicited them to Interfere for that purpose. If their professions

were sincere they would now be apparent to the world, by abiding or not abiding by this same Line, they recommended it strongly to the Indians to hold a Treaty with the Americans and to appoint time and place for making any overtures for an accommodation they likewise recommended to them to have some of the King their Father's Officers to attend the said Treaty, in case any advantage should be taken of them.

The Western Indians tell the Five Nations that they are much pleased with the Seven Nations of Lower Canada for their Council and secure offers of assistance should an accommodation not take place.

5th. This Day the Five Nations deliver in their different written Speeches they had received from the Americans, in order that some of the King's People then present might explain it to them.

The Western Indians, said written speeches were unintelligible to them, but wished the Five Nations verbally to acquaint them of their proceedings in consequence of which they did. After which the Shawenoes and other Chiefs, remarked to Col. McKee, that there was a Great Similarity in the language of the Five Nations and the United States as they were constantly vebrating peace in their Ears.

6th. A private meeting was held this day with the chiefs of the Five Nation and others, on account of a bad construction being put on their words by a former Interpretation in the General Council, when after renewing the same conversation with different Interpreters, a better understanding was the consequence.

7th. This day a general Council of all the Confederate Indians took place when the Five Nations received the thanks of the whole Confederacy, and that they now understood each other. In this General Council it was unanimously resolved that the River Ohio should be the boundaries between them and the United States, and that all other Lands bought by Individual Indians should be ceded back to the different Nation of Indians. That they should in May following meet Commissioners from the United States and that some of the King's Officers should be present. That as there was a broad Tract from the Five Nations to the United States it was desired that they the Five Nations would inform them of their Resolutions in that quarter and in the mean time as a preliminary that the Americans should Remove all their Forts which they have built in their Country.

On same day Col. McKee, Capt Bunbury and Mr. Selby with myself left the Glaize, on our way to the Foot of the Rapids,

when about 5 miles on our Journey, we met Capt Brant, with about 5 of his men going to the Glaize.

Oct 10th we arrived at the Rapids, and on the 11th Simon Girty an Interpreter informed Col. McKee that a party of about 30 Hurons had gone a Reconnoitering.

13th. Captain Brant returned to the foot of the Rapids and seemed displeased with the proceedings of the General Council.

14th. Captain Bunbury, Capt La Motte, and myself accompanied by the Five Nations and several Nations of Lower Canada, leave the Rapids for Detroit Capt Brant and 40 of his men remained behind, 10 others went out with the Hurons a Reconnoitering.

15th. Arrived at Detroit.

18th. Again left Detroit on Board of the Ottawa, accompanied as before.

23d. Arrived at Fort Erie.

Names of the Different Confederate Nations at the General Council held at the Glaize

Shawenoes	Wyandots
Delawares	Miamies
Connoys	Nantikokes
Ottawas	Mohigans
Chipeways	Potawatimas
Cherokees	Creeks
Sawkies	Reynards
Ouiawatanons	Six Nations

Seven Nations of Lower Canada.

W. Johnson.

J. G. S.

Endorsed: 4.
In Lt. Govr. Simcoe's of 4th Novr. 1792.

[Q 279-1, p 62]

LT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE TO COL. A. MC KEE.

Navy Hall Augt. 30th 1792.

Sir,

The very high opinion that His Excellency Lord Dorchester and General Clarke entertained of your zeal and Discretion, embolden me to propose to you the hazarding of a measure that seems most likely to effect that Indian Boundary, or somewhat like it, which we stretched out when I had the pleasure of seeing you at Montreal.

It is to endeavour to impress the Indians now meeting from the "farthest parts of Canada of *themselves* to solicit the King's good "offices. It is to be extremely desired that this solicitation should "be the result, of their own spontaneous Reflections; In all cases "it will be adviseable, after the repeated assurances of our neutrality "which we have given to Congress, that there should appear on "our part nothing like Collusion or any active Interference to "inspire them, with such a sentiment; a suspicion of that tendancy "would infallibly tend to defeat the accomplishment of our object; "It will also be essential that all the Indian tribes bordering on "the British Possessions, should concur in the solicitation not only "as so numerous a confederacy, would present to the Americans the "appearance of an encreased accumulation of Hostile force; but also, "as a consolidation of the Indian Territorial Claims, and Rights, is "requisite to the formation of so extensive a Barrier, as we have in "contemplation; you no doubt will be persuaded, as well as myself, "that it is neither the Interest, nor the Inclination of His Majesty's "Government to commence offensive Hostilities against the United "States; it will therefore be highly proper to guard the Indians against "any expectations of that sort; In the event of the Congress refusing "to admit our mediation upon this ground. My only reason for sup- "posing the Solicitations of the Indians to be a mode of opening the "negociation more practicable than our voluntary offer, arises from "the apprehension that the latter would appear to be an Interposi- "tion; not invited by either party, whereas the former would be "only a compliance with the wishes of nations in alliance with us, "and in whose existence and preservation, we have a clear, decided, "and permanent Interest."

There are many modes by which I conceive this purpose may be effected and which I submit in perfect confidence to your Judgment and Discretion:—But one strikes me as peculiarly forcible, which is, that the change from the British Government, to that of the United States, has put it out of the power of the Indians to procure any *Documents*, which may substantiate their claims against the United States (excepting from the United States themselves which it is unreasonable to expect as they are a party concerned), or from Great Britain, who has only a general Interest to prevent the further prosecution of so destructive war. It is therefore with peculiar propriety that the Indians can apply to the British Court to assist them with the Copies of their former Treaties with the Indians, and Deeds of Cession, to shew what the Claims of the British were

before the grant of Independency; and the very late compilation of the Treaties under the authority of Congress (which I transmit for your perusal) exemplifying all the Treaties subsequent to that Event; The Collection of both would clearly point out what were the authenticated claims of the *Whites* against the *Indians*. For the explanation of my opinions I transmit to you an extract from a Letter of the late Sir Wm. Johnson's to the Board of Trade in 1763, previous to the Treaty of Fort Stanwix in 1768; which seems to have been founded on his exposition. You will see by this Extract the defined claim of the *Canada Indians* and of those of *the Six Nations;* I do not understand that the Canada Indians have sold any Territory to the United States, nor have the Six Nations to the Northward as will appear by the Comparison of this Extract with the Treaty concluded at Fort Stanwix in 1784; yet it is said that the Land Jobbers have bought this Land from the State of New York, tho' from what I can learn from Colonel Butler, the *Indians* do not acknowledge they have sold it; The truth is the Savages seem very ignorant of the extent of their own claims, and there can be no other means for them to be ascertained, But by those which I have already mentioned.

I transmit to you also, the letter of Mr. Knox to Joseph Brant; The first paragraph speaks of that *Mohawk* Chief as having a Right of Soil in the Western Territory, and this is the exact language in all Sir William Johnson's Treaties, and these *data*, the Right of the *Canada Indians*, as possessors of the Land to the Northward of Oswegatchie &c, that of the Six Nations to all that they have not sold, together with their ancient claim of Right of Soil in the Western Territory, give these Nations a *Right* to offer their advice and to have Recourse to their ancient Father the King of Great Britain for his mediation.

I have desired Colonel Butler to endeavour to impress the *Indians* of the *Buffaloe Creek*, who leave this place soon for the Council with these opinions; and if I can see Captain Brant should in some degree, state them to him, I believe His Behaviour at *Philadelphia* has been in all respects upright and proper.

I have directed Mr. Johnson the Indian Interpreter to be sent by Colonel Butler to give you, what assistance may be in his power by his influence over the Buffaloe Creek Indians; I am sorry that these people and those of the Grand River are not on good Terms; it is of consequence they should become united to make their *Common Claim* as the Six Nations.

I presume Mr. Washington's address to the Buffaloe Creek people to be much the same as that sent to Brant. It is obvious *that* in no case *just* or *unjust* is there a proposition made to give up the Lands, for which the Western Indians are now contending, but should the bargain on the part of the States be proved to have been fallacious, then a further quantum of compensation shall be agreed upon.

The place of the Treaty under every appearance of Justice and conveniency the Indians may name; if they ask our mediation it may be where it shall suit the conveniency of all parties; and where their Superintendant General Sir John Johnson or the British Embassador, as shall be appointed may easily meet them.

It is evident that if the United States, agree to the second Article of Knox's letter, 2d that the United States require no Indian Lands, but those which (have been ceded by *Treaties*) made with the full understanding and free consent of the Chiefs—We shall be certain of that very useful Boundary to the Northward which we projected. I know your task to be a very difficult one, but I cannot but augur it will meet with the fullest success and that the claiming of the Intervention of Great Britain will appear to the Indians themselves as a natural Reply to the Message now sent to Congress, through Brant, and the Buffaloe Creek Indians. You are not unadvised that the Government of the States are attempting to make peace through every means but that of Great Britain.

Your friend Captain Bunbury who is in my confidence is the bearer of this Dispatch, to whom I refer you for further particulars and am with great esteem & Respect

Your faithful Servt

J. G. SIMCOE.

To Col. McKee, &c.

Endorsed: 1.
In Lt. Govr. Simcoe's of 4th Novr. 1792.

[Q 279–1, p 13]

COL. A. MC KEE TO LT. COL. RICHARD ENGLAND.

Copy of a Letter from Colonel McKee to Lt Colonel England.

MIAMIS RAPIDS Sepr. 4th 1792.

SIR,

Yesterday I had the honor to receive your letter of the 30th of August. Since I last wrote to you nothing material has occurred

worth communicating, nor do I expect any Information worthy His Excellency's, or your notice, until the arrival of some of the Indian Messengers, who are sent out to be particularly informed of the situation and strength of the American Force, which they say is collecting on this side of the Ohio, when any of these arrive, I shall not fail to send you the most speedy Intelligence.

The sickness now prevailing among the Indians, particularly those from Canada, has occasioned considerable delay in their affairs, as they have not even been able to receive the Messages sent to them from the Glaize, where they were expected before this time, the Indians above, not thinking it safe to leave their villages till they are further informed of the distance, and designs of this force.

Five o'clock in the Evening. This moment, three Runners are come in from the Glaize with information that a large convoy of Provisions had arrived at Fort Jefferson four days ago, with such a number of Troops as gives them reason to believe that more is intended, than the Reinforcement of that Post, in consequence of which they have brought Messages to the Nations here, to move immediately to the Glaize—They also inform me that Parties are sent out to watch the further movements of this force, and that I may daily expect more accounts, which as they arrive shall be regularly communicated to you.

I have the honor to be
with great respect Sir
Your most obedient and
very humble Servant
A. McKee.

Indorsed: No. 1.
In Lt. Govr. Clarke's No. 47, of 15 Octr. 1792.

[Q 61–1, p 195]

COL. A. MC KEE TO LT. COL. RICHARD ENGLAND.

Copy of a Letter from Colonel McKee to Lt. Colonel England.

Foot of the Rapids, Miamis September 6th 1792.

Sir,

The Boat having been detained by contrary winds, affords me an opportunity of communicating to you, that two Runners have this instant come in from the Glaize, who are sent to inform the Indians here, and on the Lake, that a large body of Americans mounted, and without Baggage, were seen three days ago, on the

ground, where the last engagement happened, with an appearance, as if they meant to advance to their Villages. In which case, I shall in all likelihood be able in a few days, to inform you, of some interesting particulars and have the honor to be with great respect

Sir Your most obedient and
very humble Servant
A. McKee.

Indorsed: No. 2.
In Lt. Govr. Clarke's No. 47, of 15th Octr. 1792.

[Q 61-1, p 197]

COL. A. MC KEE TO JOSEPH CHEW.

Extract of a Letter from Colonel McKee to Joseph Chew, Secretary Indian Department, dated

Foot of the Rapids, Miamis Septemr. 11th 1792.

"At present nothing has been determined on by the different Nations, their Council having been put off by the sickness of some of your Indians from Caughnawaga, and will now be further put off, for the arrival of the Cornplanter, and his Senecas, and the Five Nations from the Grand River, both of which nations are on their way from this place, and hourly expected, indeed the Senecas are in the River, and will probably be here to night, Messengers from the Glaize (where the Council will this year be held) report their having seen a large party of the American Cavalry on the Ground where the last engagement happened, should this be true and the United States at a time, when they are endeavouring to accomplish a peace, should be acting hostily against the Indians, the Council will of course break up, and the horrors of war will recommence."

"Messengers are also sent to the Indians here, from the Mississippi and the westward of it, that they are coming with their whole force to join the people of their own color, should this happen, and which I do not doubt, there will be a more powerful combination of strength than the U. S. are aware of, and they will probably see too late (if they have not already) that the injustice of their demands, will add to the misfortunes, that have already happen'd, and deluge their Country with Blood"

Indorsed: No. 3.
In Lt. Govr. Clarke's No. 47, of 15 Octr. 1792.

[Q 61-1, p 198]

COL. A. MC KEE TO JOSEPH BRANT.

FOOT OF THE RAPIDS, MIAMIES Septr. 11th 1792.

DEAR SIR,

As I wrote to you very fully on the 5th of this month, I have little to add on the General Subject of Affairs here, except, that your presence at the General Council, soon to be held at the Glaize, becomes more and more necessary, as well from your superior knowledge of Indian Affairs as of the true Interests & prejudices of the contending Parties.

You may believe me, that it was with great concern, I heard of your Indisposition, but I hope by this time you are so far recovered, as to be able to attend here to a Business of much magnitude as will call forth all the Abilities of the General Confederacy. Your having heretofore been present at all the Engagements entered into by the Western Indians and their Confederates at this place, will naturally point to yourself the propriety & necessity of your being now here, and I trust and hope, that should your health permit you will have sufficient time for that purpose, as this Letter will be conveyed to you with as much expedition as possible.

As you have asked for my opinion, I have given it you freely and candidly, for the good of the whole.

And am with great Regard

&c &c

A. MCKEE.

Captain Joseph Brant.

Indorsed: No. 4.
In Lt. Govr. Clarke's No. 47, of 15 Octr: 1792.

[Q 61-1, p 200]

LT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE TO GEORGE HAMMOND.

NIAGARA Sepr. 27th 1792.

SIR,

I have the honor of acknowledging the receipt of your Excellency's Letter of the 11th of July with the Inclosures therein enumerated.

The Letter which I wrote to His Excellency General Clarke, and which I do myself the honor of enclosing for your perusal, will fully evince my opinion that nothing can have been more judicious than your not as yet having offered that mediation in behalf of

the Indians which is entrusted to your discretion, the existing circumstances of the United States being held in due consideration.

As you do me the honor of desiring my opinion, on two Events, either of which may happen, another defeat of the Army of the United States by the Indians, or the request of these people for our Intervention and mediation, I hesitate not to give my most explicit sentiments on these important subjects.

I trust and have not the smallest doubt, that another such unexpected and signal success as attended the Indians against Mr. St Clair would produce all the effects Your Excellency seems to augur, and that it is possible the generosity of the cession of the *Posts* now held by His Majesty's Arms might in that case produce an effect on the minds of the People of the States, that might lead to a proper Boundary being fixed, and on the principles which His Majesty's Ministers in their wisdom seem to have adopted.

In regard to the second object, The solicitation of the good offices of His Majesty as originated from the Indians themselves; On His Excellency General Clarke's communicating to me your wishes on that subject, I lost no time in carrying them into execution, as the enclosed copy of my Letter to Col. McKee will fully elucidate to Your Excellency.

I cannot refrain from making my observations on your Dispatch to Lord Grenville, marked No 3 and which, in a latter paragraph of the letter Your Excellency has honored me with, you say are the extent of the *Concessions* which this Country is inclinable to make in order to adjust its differences with Great Britain and I am sure I shall not stand in need of an apology to you for my comments, as they are dictated by an anxiety to serve His Majesty and my Country. These seem to consist of the following particulars: "1st, "the Government of the States would enter into precise stipulations, "by which the number of Troops to be stationed in the Forts (if they were suffered to exist) might be limited." Such an adjustment on the part of Great Britain would be highly impolitic, both in consideration of the weakness of our infant colony of Upper Canada, the distance she is at from all succour in case of attack, and the facility, with which the United States could assemble a numerous militia for the purpose of Rapine or Plunder. It is apparent to me, that the Expence of a military Establishment for any continuance of time, is what the Government of the United States must be very apprehensive of; as it is incapable of raising any Taxes, except by the indirect and precarious mode of Imports. But if, as I conceive

there be very serious objections to Great Britain binding herself down to the maintenance of no more than a limited Military Force, they operate with tenfold Effect, where limitation of the Naval Force on the Lakes shall be taken into consideration, the British Naval Force upon the Lakes is absolutely necessary to transport Stores and provisions to the different Garrisons and Settlements which we possess on their borders, and with which we have not any other possible communication; whensoever the Forts shall be ceded to the United States, they will be supplied from the Inland Country and whatever Naval Force they shall possess upon the Lakes will be solely for the purpose of Defence or Hostility. The most extensive views are now open to Great Britain by the Colonization of Upper Canada; but they in a great measure commercially and politically depend upon the creation of a Naval Force, which its natural situation, its habitual mode of intercourse, its prior occupancy point out as a Ballance of power, in the interior parts of America, which will amply recompence Great Britain for the most vigorous exertions she can make in the foundation and support of that Province.

In the wise and luminous Report of the Lords of Trade, of the 7th of March 1768 they observe that "Colonization upon the Con-"tinent of America had for its object to extend the Commerce, Navi-"gation, and Manufactures of Great Britain; and for these Salutary "purposes it has been the policy of this Kingdom to confide her "settlements as much as possible to the Sea Coasts &c, &c, &c." Following this chain of reasoning, they justly discountenance and condemn the many propositions that were before them for the settlement of the Internal parts of America (now called the Western Territory) But Sir, it must be obvious to you that, sooner or later, this great tract of Country will be settled, and that power which shall command the Lakes, will as inevitably possess its commerce. It is therefore this principle of more remote advantage, as well as that of present safety, that I should rather advise the augmenting our Naval Force (in case the Forts should be ceded) than binding ourselves by any stipulation tc accede to its limitations.

In regard to the stipulations still more favorable to the Interests of the Crown (viz), that of razing all the present Fortifications of the Posts, and erecting Log Forts at a distance nearer to the Indians &c, and to allow the British Subjects engaged in the Fur Trade to form Factories, and depots on the several points of communication between the Lakes, all of which are according to the Treaty within the American Line; I can only observe on the two

great communications of Niagara and the Detroit, that of Niagara is now totally carried on upon the British side of the Line, and with great and obvious advantages; that of Detroit in process of time by Captain Mann's very able report will also be more favorably managed by means of our Coasts, and in both of those passes considered in the light of Military protection of giving facility to commerce, or shelter to shipping, the British Shore has the most decisive Superiority.

I apprehend the Treaty of peace declared all these communications, Highways, and open to both parties.

But, Sir, if the Government of the States should afford a free and *effectual* communication to the Mississippi by means of some of the Rivers falling into Lake Superior, I cannot but conceive this to be an object of the most serious consideration; But to the *free* and *effectual*, I conceive the States must renounce their Right of preemption from the Indians, the Ouisconsing is the River best adapted for this purpose, and on our part I should not think it impolitic solely to confine ourselves to our factories or (if necessary) to our Military Posts; and to stipulate that the Territory itself never shall be purchased from the Indians or settled.

By insisting, that the stipulations of Utrecht relative to the Indians govern what has not been otherwise explained in all subsequent Treatys my meaning has ever been to avail ourselves of them, as an irrefragable argument, for the necessity of more precise stipulations, and by surrendering a litigious Right of indefinite Extent, to obtain a more limited and ascertained advantage.

It is obvious Great Britain must, from the encrease of the Western Settlements lose the Peltry Trade of Detroit, the sacrifice of it therefore for a permanent peace, is barely more than anticipation. The valuable Fur Trade to the North West: The States cannot expect to obtain: and when they have got over all the obstacles of immense capital and long possession, Great Britain would probably find an access of such facility thro' Hudson's Bay, as forever would annihilate the possibility of any competition by means of the Canadian Lakes and Rivers.

I beg you to advert to the Boundary between the Canadian Indians, and Six Nations, as copied from the paper I sent to Colonel McKee.

The Savages choose great and obvious land marks for their Boundaries; I apprehend this to be one of that nature, and it includes Captain Mann's Boundary.

If the States mean fairly by us, They must give up the Islands in the St Lawrence, They are *essential to our safety.*

I am much obliged by your communication relative to Brant it was very satisfactory.

In regard to your Question, what would result to the Government of Canada from suffering the Indians to conclude a pacification with the United States independant of our Intervention? I can only say, that the most serious effects might be dreaded, the moment the United States should possess the *Posts*, there would be nothing to prevent the Indians from attacking our settlements; and how far the subjects of the States would conceive themselves warranted to turn the views of the Indians, and that alienation of opinion which they must have undergone, against the British Nation, Your Excellency is as capable of judging as I can possibly be. It is what I most seriously apprehend at present it is to be feared lest the Army of the United States should beat the Indians, and follow the fugitives into Detroit, this Brant has told me was his advice to the Shawenoes; and this Chieftain seems so fully impressed of the impolicy of Great Britain's permitting the Indians to be destroyed, that nothing can persuade him, but that ultimately it is meant to support them. Brant has told me that the Senecas have threatened him and his people, if the Western Indians are crushed, it is very probable this quarrel would be fomented by the subjects of the States.

I have the honor to be &c

J. G. Simcoe.

To His Excellency George Hammond, &c.

Endorsed: 2.
In Lt. Govr. Simcoe's of 4 Novr. 1792.

[Q 279-1, p 21]

Schedule of Indian Papers &c inclosed in Major General Clarke's letter of the 29th September 1792.

No 1. Copy of a Letter from Lieut Colonel England Commanding at Detroit dated 5th July 1792 covering sundry papers respecting Indian Affairs, vizt.

A. Copy of a Speech from Brig. Genl. James Wilkinson to the Wyandot and Ottawa Nations &c dated Fort Washington 20th May 1792.

B. Copy of a Speech by the Shawanese and Delawares to Capt. Elliot dated Grand Glaize 11th June 1792.

C. Copy of a Letter from H. Knox Secy. of War to Captain Trueman dated War Department April 3rd 1792.

D. Copy of a Speech from H. Knox Secy for the Dept of War and director of Indian Affairs to all the Sachems & Warriors inhabiting the Miami River of Lake Erie &c. &c. dated at Philadelphia 4th April 1792.

E. Copy of Instructions from Brigadier General Wilkinson to Colonel Harden dated Fort Washington May 20th 1792.

No 2. Extract of a Letter received from the Glaize dated 3rd June 1792.

No 3. Copy of William Mays Declaration.

No 4. Copy of a Letter from A. McKée Deputy Agent to His Excellency Colonel Simcoe dated Foot of the Rapids, Miamis, August the 24th 1792.

No 5. Extract of a Letter from Captain Doyle, Commanding at Michilimackinac to Sir John Johnson dated 23rd July 1792 .... and Captain Joseph Brant to Mr. Chew, Secretary of Indian Affairs dated Niagara the 1st August 1792.

Indorsed: Schedule.
In Lt. Govr. Clarke's No. 46, of 29 Sept. 1792.

[Q 61-1, p 137]

PROCEEDINGS OF A GENERAL COUNCIL OF INDIAN NATIONS.

Proceedings of a General Council of the several Indian Nations (mentioned underneath) held at the Glaize on the 30th day of September 1792 and continued until the 9th day of October inclusive vizt.:

Delawares	Potowatamies
Shawenoes	Cherokees
Miamis	Creeks
Chippawas	Six Nations
Ottawas	Seven Nations of Canada
Wyandots	Mingoes of the Glaze
Munseys	Sawkies
Connoys	Reynards & a few
Nantikokes	Ouiatenons and
Mohikens	Large Bands of Warriors.

The Shawenoes and Miamis by two of their people, presented the end of a Calumet, to each person of the Seneca Nation, which they smoked; afterwards to the Seven Nations of Canada, then to the Wyandots, and so on thorough all the Chiefs of the Confederacy, when that ceremony was over

Messquakinoe a Shawenoe Chief rose and said

Brothers, Uncles and Nephews,

This is the day which the Great Spirit has appointed for us all to meet together to consult on our General Interests and the good of all nations of our color. And since we have all smoked the Pipe of Friendship, listen attentively, to what I shall have to say to you bye and bye.

A Chief of the Seven Nations of Canada then rose,

Brother,

We have come a long journey to see you and talk to you, we have lost several of our people since we began our journey, some of them died on the Road, and our principal Chief died at the Foot of the Rapids; He then repeated the Condolence of the Ottawas on that occasion, and delivered to the Shawenoes Messquakenoe a String of White Wampum with a pipe and strings of black & white Wampum, tied to it.

Brothers,

This is the Pipe we sent to the distant Nations, the Potowatomies, Sawkies, Reynards and the other Nations west of the Mississippi, and inhabiting the Lakes, and these are the Speeches they sent in answer to our Message to them, which I will soon tell you.

Elder Brothers of the 6 Nations & 7 Nations of Canada

I am one of those, appointed by the unanimous choice of the Delawares, Shawenoes, Miamis, Chippawas, Ottawas, Hurons, Munseys, Connoys, Nantikokes, Potowatomies, Cherokees, Creeks, Sawkies, Reynards, and all the Western Confederacy, to speak to you in their name: To clear Your Eyes that you may see clearly after your long Journey, to open Your Hearts to the impressions of Justice and Truth, and Your Ears, to listen attentively to all we shall say to you, and to desire and warn you not to listen to bad Birds, who will corrupt your Hearts, blind your Eyes and shut your Ears against your true Interests.

Brothers,

You have come a long way to see us and speak to us: I must now tell you to be strong & speak your minds freely whatever you have to say at this Council Fire which was kindled by our Forefathers who are now all dead. Take then this piece of Tobacco, and whilst

you are smoking it, consider what you have to say, and tell us what you have on Your minds and Hearts to communicate to us.

After waiting some time and no one getting up to speak, Messquakenoe desired the early attendance of the Council in the morning, and the whole broke up.

Oct 2d. Messquakenoe rose & said

BROTHERS,

The badness of the weather prevented our assembling yesterday: I will now tell you all I have to say: then taking up a handfull of strings, and Belt of Wampum, proceeded thus:

ELDER BROTHERS OF THE SIX NATIONS

When we last met four years ago, it was your advice to us, to be all united and strong as if one nation: We are so: We have followed your advice—This is the Speech (holding up a string of Wampum) you sent to the Wyandots, and it has been sent to us by all nations, to the South and to the West. You see there the Creeks and Cherokees sitting by us, who have come here in consequence of our Speeches, to assure us that their nation will unite with us,—All these Speeches in my hand, are from the different Nations assuring us of their friendship and support.

Here is a Petayo sitting here, whom we sent to you some years ago, to Niagara to acquaint you with all our affairs in this Country; and the Speeches you returned by him were to be strong and united and to defend our Country. We took that advice, and we are resolved to defend it.

Our Messengers are now ready to go to the Southern and Western Nations, to acquaint them that the principal Chiefs of the Six Nations have at length come to our General Council Fire, to confirm here, the advice they gave us to be strong and united.

(Taking up a Pipe)

BROTHERS,

This pipe was brought to us by Wawpessenhwa, whom we sent with speeches to the distant Western Nations, they desired it might be left at this Council Fire for all nations to come and take hold of it, and desired us to be strong and hold fast our country. They also desired us to acquaint our Elder Brethren the Six Nations of it—We now do so—Ye were slow in coming, or it would have been, sent back long ago.

(Laying down the pipe and taking up 6 strings of White & 6 strings of Black Wampum)

Brothers of the Six Nations,

You know when we last met at the foot of the Rapids 4 years ago it was unanimously agreed on by all Nations, to be strong, and to defend our Country; But we have never seen you since that time. We suppose you have been constantly trying to do us some good, and that was the reason of your not coming sooner to join us. We shall now send these speeches to all the distant nations to acquaint them with this Council and of your being present.

Buckaugehaliss a Chief of the Delawares

Uncles 6 Nations,

Don't think, because the Shawenoes only have spoke to you, that it is their sentiments alone, they have spoke the sentiments of all the Nations.

I remember when we last met 4 years ago, you told us, and all nations agreed to it, that if any one of us were struck, we should consider it as a blow given to all, and that the whole should join in revenging it. Think well of this Uncles of the 6 Nations. All of us are animated by one mind, one Heart and one Head, and we are resolved to stick close by each another and defend ourselves to the last.

Messquakenoe a Shawenoe Chief.

Brothers of the 6 Nations,

This is all we have at present to say to you; you see sitting by us here, the Creeks and Cherokees who are immediately to sett off with these Speeches, to their own Nations.

Cow Killer a Seneca Chief, Black & White Strings of Wampum

Brothers,

We return you thanks for the kindness with which we have been treated, since we came among you, and for what you have told us. Our meetings are too late in the day to get through much business. Let us all encamp on this ground and rise at Day light, and in the morning we will tell you every thing we have to say.

The Council then broke up.

Oct 3d. The weather was very dark & threatened rain which prevented this meeting this day.

Oct 4th. Messquakenoe,—

Elder Brothers of the Six Nations,

We are now ready to hear what you have to say to us.

Cow Killer a Seneca Chief, With a string of White Wampum.

We thank you all Shawenoes, Delawares &c. &c. (repeating all the different Nations) for wiping away our Tears and setting our Hearts

right, for the loss of our Friends, our Women & Children since we last met, and I beg you will now listen to what your elder Brethren the 6 Nations are now going to say to you.

Taking a black & white string.

BROTHERS,

We have now come to Council with you, as you sent for us, and I beg you will listen attentively, as you desired us to tell you what we had in our minds. We are now following the steps of our Forefathers, and renewing our ancient Friendship.

Listen therefore to what we have now to say to you.

Then taking the Bundle of Speeches and Belts, that were given to them the last Council day, thus proceeded.

BROTHERS,

We are very glad you have strengthened the Chain of Friendship with all the distant Nations from whom you received these Belts & Speeches. It was always our advice to you to do so, and we are glad you have followed it, and we return you our thanks for the pains you have taken to accomplish it.

BROTHERS,

You told us also of the Creek and Cherokee Nations being now present, we return you thanks for that also, as it will brighten the chain of friendship with all Nations.

A Pipe.

BROTHERS,

We thank you for shewing us this Pipe of Peace & Friendship, which was sent, to be left here for all nations of our Colour, to take hold of. We now join our hands to it, and leave it to be lodged with you, for the purpose you have mentioned.

Black and White Strings.

BROTHERS,

I now speak to the Counsellors & Warriors and I desire you will take notice what I shall say to you. The white people are looking at us, & know what we are about,—They are always the Instigators of our Quarrels; let us now unite and consider what will be the best for us, our women and children, to lengthen our days and be in peace.

Several Strings of White Wampum.

BROTHERS,

I address myself to all the Nations. You know that 4 years ago we met in Council at the Foot of the Rapids, you will remember all that passed there. You invited us now to come here, as we

had not seen you for four years and you suppose we were doing something all that time for your good.

I now tell you we have been endeavouring to do something for your good, the last two years in our Council.

Brothers,

When the White People on the Island were as one man, They asked us at Fort Stanwix for Land; we granted it. A few years afterwards, they fell out among themselves. The King our Father, told us he was going to chastise his son and no body else, and it would be over in a short time—soon after we were desired by the People of this Island to sit still and not mind the Quarrels of Father & Son, But shortly after that, Our Father the King, desired us to take part with him, which we complied with. Our Father was defeated by the Americans and then made a peace and left us alone—Our Father then desired us to speak to the Americans for as good a peace as we could get for ourselves. We have been trying to do so in the best manner we could, and we now desire you to do the same and to join with us in our best endeavours for that purpose. The Country you live in is a very good one and I like it very much.

Brothers,

You were fortunate that the Great Spirit above was so kind as to assist you to throw the Americans twice on their backs when they came against your Villages, Women and Children. Now Brothers, we know that the Americans have held out their hands to offer you peace. Don't be too proud spirited and reject it, lest the Great Spirit should be angry with you, but let us go on in the best manner we can to make peace with them.

A Black & White String.

Now Counsellors and Warriors,

You have heard what I had to say, I hope you will attend to it. Your warriors were lately in the front, but I hope to see the Counsellors there, & they consulting together which is the best means of making peace for the advantage of ourselves, our Women & Children.

A Black & White Belt.

Brothers,

You have heard what the 6 Nations have said to you. You will remember the Americans have come when we have been in Council and kicked out our Fire.

We now kindle it once more that we may settle what is good and proper for peace, for our Women Children and Warriors.

A Chief of the Seven Nations of Canada, With a White String.

Brothers,

You sent for the 7 Nations to come to this Council Fire; I now clear your eyes, that you may see clearly and your Hearts, that you may understand, and attend with due consideration to what I am going to say.

A large Black & White Belt.

Brothers,

I desire that the warriors would take notice and remember what their Sachems shall fix upon for the good of their women, their Children and their Country.

A large white Belt.

Brothers,

Listen to what I am going to say to your Counsellors. When you desired us to come to this Council Fire, you sent us word to come at our warriors backs. If any thing goes wrong it will be the fault of the Counsellors & not of the Warriors. The Sachems and Chiefs of the 7 Nations, desire that all the nations of our Colour in this Island should be of one mind and strong. Our Father the King, has always desired us to be of one mind, to have but one Heart and to unite ourselves firmly together for our general interests and safety. The Americans want to take our Country from us. The 7 nations have never once spoken to them since our Father made peace.

Now Brothers, as the Americans are now wanting to speak to us, let us put our Heads together and join as one nation, and if they do not agree to what we shall determine on: Let us all strike them at once. These are the sentiments of the 7 Nations.

He then delivered separate Belts from each of the 7 Nations, with a short speech to each expressing the nation to whom the Belt belonged.

He then spoke thus on a very large white Belt.

Brothers, Creeks & Cherokees,

It gives us great pleasure to see you here and of the same mind with the Shawenoes, Delawares, Miamis, Hurons &c. &c. &c. &c. &c. and I speak on this large Belt to confirm our union, to take care of our Country, our women & children and to listen to our Father, the King who always gives us good advice.

The Council then broke up it being late.

5th of Octo.

Messquakenoe. (Holding the Belt and Speeches of 7 Nations of Canada).

Brothers of the 7 Nations,

We will immediatey send this Belt to acquaint all the distant Nations, with what you have said, and we will acquaint the Chiefs of these nations that we will follow the advice you have given us, which we consider to be good for all people of our colour.

Then laying down the Belt & taking up the Strings & Belts of the 6 Nations he said.

Brothers,

These are the Speeches & Belts of the 6 Nations which they spoke on yesterday.—If what they have said is the truth it is all very well. But listen to what I shall say to them (laying down the Strings & Belts).

Black & White Strings.

Elder Brethren of the 6 Nations,

You spoke to us yesterday, and what you said, we liked very well, But you did not speak to the real purpose you come upon to this Council Fire. You know very well you desired us to brighten the chain of Friendship with all the Southern and Western Nations. We have done it, and thought it was proper to acquaint our Elder Brethren the 6 nations therewith, which we did last year together with the Delawares, Wyandots and other Nations at your villages.

We consulted with you also as our Elder Brethren what was best to be done for the safety of our Country and the good of our women and children. But you told us you could not tell us any thing; that our Chiefs and Warriors were invited to an American Treaty. We then told you were on our way to Quebec, to see our Father. When we had finished our business with our Father we returned and stayed six days at the six Nation Village, and you said nothing to us. Now Brothers, of the 6 Nations what you said to us yesterday, was nothing to the purpose for which you were sent to this Council Fire. The Road which our Fore Fathers made to your Country, is plain and wide. I can see very well what you are about from this place.

Brothers of the 6 Nations,

You are still talking to the Americans, Your head is still towards them and you are now talking to them. When you left your Villages to come here, You had a bundle of American Speeches under your Arm. I now desire you Brothers to lay that Bundle down here and

explain what you have been talking with them these last two years. When we hear all you have to say, or if it is right and good we will lay all our heads together, for the welfare of our Country, our Women and our Warriors.

BROTHERS OF THE 6 NATIONS,

All the different nations here, now desire you to speak from your Heart, and not from your mouth, and tell them what that Bundle was which you had under your arm when you came here,—We know what you are about, we see you plainly.

He then threw down at the Seneca's feet the strings on which he had spoke.

Cow Killer, a Seneca Chief of the 6 Nations.

BROTHERS,

We desire you will sit still, we shall move to a little distance, to consult on what answer, to give you—You have talked to us a little too roughly—You have thrown us on our backs.

The Farmer's Brother, another Seneca Chief, then put the strings which had been thrown down over his head & all the Senecas & those who sat with them, moved away and remained an hour.

Cow Killer, with Strings of Black & White Wampum.

BROTHERS,

Listen to what the 6 Nations are going now to say to all the Nations of our Colour.

You very well know when you returned from Canada last year, you passed by our Villages & went by Tiendenagoe's.

BROTHERS,

You tell us that we are always running to the Americans and telling them everything.

We have been talking to them, tis true; They sent for us and led us by the hand to Philadelphia where we met the 13 States and Washington. He told us he had had several meetings with the Indians on this Island at Beaver Creek and several other places. You all know & the Wyandots whom I see sitting there know.—What was said there—it cannot be strange to any of you.

BROTHERS,

Washington asked us what was the cause of the uneasiness of the Western Nations. We told him it was in regard to their Lands. He then told us he would satisfy the owners of the Land, if it had been sold by people who were not the real owners thereof; But he wishes for a Council with all the Nations, for that purpose.

Brothers,

He did not say he would give up the Lands, but that he would satisfy the Indians for them. That he wanted nothing so much as the friendship of all his Brothers the Indians throughout this Island. He then desired us to come to you with his Speeches, & tell you all he said, & he added that if the Forts he had made in the Country gave uneasiness he would remove them.

Brothers,

He also told us, that after we had finished our business, it might be dangerous for us to return through the Country; But that you had many prisoners of his and that you could easily send some of them to tell him what had been determined on.

Brothers,

These are the papers and speeches, (taking up a Tin case) which we received "B" & we now give them to you. This is all we have to say, take them to your Father and he will explain them to you.

The Council then broke up till next day.

Octo. 6th.

The confederate Chiefs assembled and remained for 4 hours on the ground, at length the Seneca's of Buffaloe Creek sent to them to desire a private Council with their Village Chiefs at their camp. Petayo, Buckaugehaliss, Messquakenoe and several others went & they relate the following as the substance of what passed.

Private Council.

Farmer's Brother, a Seneca Chief.

Brothers,

We have desired this private meeting to explain more fully what was said yesterday.

Brothers,

We have already mentioned to you, that we have been two years in Council with Washington and during that time, we have heard nothing fall from him, but what breathed the strongest desire of cultivating peace & friendship, with all nations of our Colour on this Island, on the ground of justice & humanity. For which purpose he has desired us to speak to you our Western Brethren to know your sentiments, it behooves you therefore to consider well what answer is to be returned to him.

Brothers,

You remember when our Father and the Americans quarreled,

the Americans desired us Red People to sit still, as we had no business in their dispute. But our Father put the Hatchet into our Hands, to strike the Americans and we were both unsuccessful —from that moment our Lands were torn to pieces, and the Americans triumphed as the greatest people in this great Island.

Brothers,

These are matters for you to consider well before you give us your sentiments fully; We have now delivered ours from our Hearts, and whatever you may determine on, with regard to a Boundary Line, as we have now united ourselves with you, we shall join you heartily in representing to the United States.

End of the Private Council.

Octo 7th. The Confederate Indian Nations came this day into Council in a procession as warriors.

Messquakinoe. Black & White Strings.

Brothers of the 6 Nations,

I desire you will listen attentively to what I am now going to say to you. Yesterday you asked for a private Council as you told us we did not understand some things which you had said to us.

We now very well understand all you have said and return you our thanks. You desired us to consider well what we should determine on for the good of our women, our children and our warriors.

I now tell you Brothers we have considered well and now I am going to tell you, the minds of all your Brethren in this Country.

Brothers of the 6 Nations,

You have told us you have been listening these last two years to the United States and that during that time, you heard nothing, but what tended to the welfare of the people of our Colour. How can this be?

For whilst you were considering for the good of your Western Brethren, two powerful armies were sent by the Americans to destroy us. Has their sweet speeches so much intoxicated you and blinded you, that your sight could not reach so far, as where we are now sitting?

Brothers of the 6 Nations,

Had the Great Spirit been favorable to them instead of us, you would have found here, their strong forts, and only a small remnant or perhaps none of your Western Brethren to deliver their sweet speeches to. But Brothers, they took the same step with your nephews the Delawares and your Brothers the Hurons, whom you see here, which they did with you, to induce them to sit quiet

whilst they were destroying us, but they did not succeed so well with these Nations as with our elder Brethren, for you now see them strong in defending their just right to this Country, they put their speeches behind them, and united themselves to us as one man.

Now Brothers of the 6 Nations,

This is the way they served you, and you have listened to them. We know they want to break you off from the Nations here. But the great Spirit has now put it in your hearts, not to be broken off by them from the general Indian Confederacy. Since therefore you have now told us you have spoken from your Hearts, and that nothing remains further for you to say on the subject of your business. We hope it is the truth and that nothing will now come from you, but what may tend to our general welfare and happiness.

Brothers of the 6 Nations, (4 Black & White Strings).

You desired us to listen to you candidly and consider well what we were going to do. We have now considered what is best for us to do, I therefore desire you, to listen to me and I will tell you the resolution of all the nations, to the Southward and as far as the setting of the Sun, deputies of whose nations are now present.

Brothers,

We know very well what the Americans are about, and what are their designs. Last Fall, when the great Spirit was good enough to assist us, to throw them on their backs, we got their great Chiefs Papers and Instructions, B, at that Point of Land there which you now see, all the chiefs here present heard them interpreted to us. If the Americans had been successful, they were to build a strong Fort at the Miamis Towns, they were then to come here and build another, and then if they succeeded, they were to proceed to the mouth of this River and build another strong Fort there. They were afterwards to have set about building Boats and to drive all the Indians entirely out of the Country, to clear the Lake of them, and drive them far back into the Country. But if any of the Nations came and offered their hands, the American Chief was to put them at his back and give them Hoe's in their Hands to plant Corn for him and his people, and make them labour, like beasts, their Oxen and their Pack Horses.

Brothers of the 6 Nations,

We now tell you, we know very well the Intentions of the Americans. You have desired us to consider well what you have said to us, and not to be too proud spirited.

We are not proud spirited, nor do we attribute our great good fortune these last few years, to our own strength alone, but to the great Spirit who governs all things on this earth and who looks down on us with as much, or perhaps more, compassion than those of a fairer complexion.

BROTHERS,

You know very well the boundary that was made between us, and the English and Americans when they were as one people. It was the River Ohio.—Now Brothers of the 6 Nations, as you were sent here by the Americans to tell us what they say. We now tell you Brothers to go the same road you came and inform them, that the boundary line then fixed on is what we want and that is the determination of all the nations present yours as well as ours.

BROTHERS,

You have told us that Washington says he will make us a compensation, if the Lands were not purchased of the right owners. We do not want compensation; We want a restitution of our Lands which He holds under false pretenses. Brothers you want to go the Roads towards the American Forts. That Road Brothers is all bloody by the Americans forcing themselves into our Country; We therefore desire you to go the Road you came, the road which our Forefathers came.

BROTHERS,

The cause of the American Messengers falling to the ground was owing to their following this bloody path, where numerous Bands of distant Tribes are constantly watching any movements into our Country: Had they however arrived safe, they should have been returned safe from this Council Fire.

You tell us Brothers, that Washington also says he can easily remove these Forts, if they give us uneasiness.

NOW BROTHERS,

If the Americans want to make peace with us, Let them destroy these Forts and we will meet them next spring at Lower Sandusky, where all the parties who formerly settled the Boundary Line, must be present.

Four Strings Black & White Wampum.

BROTHERS OF THE 6 NATIONS,

This is what we desire you to tell the Americans and I tell it to you as the Sentiments of all the Indian Nations in this Country.

Cow Killer,

BROTHERS,

The 6 Nations return you thanks for what you have said to us. You have considered well before you spoke? We now join with you & will put our heads together, and endeavour to get all our Lands back, where the Americans have encroached upon us, and we will meet you in the Spring at Lower Sandusky as you have mentioned.

It being almost dark the Council broke up.

8th October.

Messquakenoe—spoke thus.

ELDER BRETHREN OF THE 6 NATIONS,

We have now only to explain to you every thing fully with regard to the proposed Council at Lower Sandusky early in the Spring, & I desire you to listen attentively to what I am going to say to you.

BROTHERS,

When the Boundary Line was made at Fort Stanwix, our Father the King of England and the Americans were as one. Our Father must have that Treaty, and we will ask him to produce it, to vindicate our claims. He must be present also at the Council, for we know nothing of writing, and his assistance will be indispensibly necessary for us, as well as all the parties who were formerly at the settling of the Boundary Line. We have a reliance on our father seeing Justice done to us; He never deceives us, and we have always found we may confidently depend upon him.

BROTHERS,

On the present occasion it is fortunate for us, that the Great King our Father has sent a person vested with his authority to take care of all his children in this Country. It is him we mean to take by the Hand and lead to the intended Council at Sandusky, should Washington accept our proposals, and manifest that Justice and humanity he talks so much about and pretends towards us. And we hope our Father will assist us also with provisions to enable us to meet at the place appointed.

BROTHERS,

Our Father Wapemassawa, has come to visit our new settlement here and to distribute the clothing for our old people & children usually sent them at this season of the year by order of the King our Great Father; We will therefore take this opportunity to explain to him the determination of this Council for the information of our

Father the Governor at Niagara, and to request his presence and assistance at the intended Council at Lower Sandusky.

The Council then adjourned.

9th October.

This morning a deputation from the General Council, consisting of Messquakenoe, Petaza, Kekinathucka and others, with the Interpreter waited on A. McKee Esq. the Agent for Indian Affairs, and after repeating, on strings of Wampum, the proceedings of the General Council since they first met on the 30th day of September last. They spoke as follows on a large Belt, addressed to their Father the Governor of the King's Dominions & people in this Country at Niagara.

FATHER,

We were happy to hear that The King our Father, had sent you to this Country, to take care of all his children.

FATHER,

A general Council of all nations of our Colour, has just been held here, and we are desired by the whole of them to acquaint you with all our transactions. You will observe the terms on which we have proposed to make a peace with the Americans, and the reliance the Indian Nations place in your assistance and friendship to promote it on just and equitable terms.

FATHER,

At this Council Fire, which is in the Center of our Country, is placed the Heart of the Indian Confederacy, to which we have always considered our Fathers to be joined, therefore we hope on this great occasion that he will exert himself to see Justice done to us, as it must be through his power and mediation that we can expect an end to our troubles. And not being in a situation to keep or procure any writings that may be necessary to assert our just claims, we rely on your friendship to produce those made at the settlement of the boundary between us and the King our Father and his People at that time. For how otherwise can a Just accommodation be accomplished.

FATHER,

We gave you this early Information of our determinations, that you may consider it well, and be ready in the Spring (should the Americans agree to meet us) to Join us at Lower Sandusky, with the assistance you know your children will stand in need of, particularly that of provisions, which their unsettled situation does not allow them to procure in this troubled Country.

FATHER,

In confidence of your ready compliance, We take you by the hand with this Belt of Wampum, to lead you to the Council Fire, as soon as it shall be kindled at Sandusky the ensuing Spring.

A Large White Belt.

A true interpretation of the original proceedings.

A. McKEE.

Endorsed:

In Lt. Govr. Simcoe's of 4th Novr. 1792.

[Q 279–1, p 31]

JN. FDK. HOLLAND TO LT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE.

QUEBEC October 4th 1792.

To His Excellency John Graves Simcoe Esquire, Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of Upper Canada &c. &c. &c.

SIR,

A Retrospect of the Surveys heretofore made in the Province of Canada, fully point out their being altogether local and confined to a small tract of that valuable Country now under your Excellencys Government. In consequence of which and of the assiduous attention that distinguishes your administration, in favor of any thing, that promotes the welfare of the Province, I am induced to mention what strikes me as requisite to be executed, in order to establish the Geography of Upper Canada; which tho' much frequented and now rendered of the utmost importance, is still far from being accurately delineated on any plan or map yet extant, owing to the want of a general Survey, being made and Latitudes and Longitudes taken to ascertain the true position of the most principal places situated on the several upper Lakes. Under Your Excellency's fostering hand, this most useful task might be executed, which if in your wisdom you should judge expedient I take the liberty of proposing the following plan as appearing to me most elligible for carrying the same into effect.

To commence by taking Latitudes and Longitudes at the different places as hereunder mentioned, and in order to obviate the principal difficulities that present themselves to impede the undertaking (that of sufficient instruments and observers) I am ready with a tried and approved set of Astronomical Instruments to take an active part in the opperation myself and aided by assistants of capacity such as I am well assured of procuring I should recommend, taking the first Latitude

at that part of the River St Lawrence, which is intersected by the Line of 45° N. L. Secondly at Oswegatchi, third at Kingston—at Oswego and Toranto—at Niagura Lat. & Long. the same at fort Erie—two Lat. on the north side of Lake Erie—at Detroit Latitude and Longitude—at Michilimackinac Lat & Long—on Lake Michigan two Latts. to determine the most Northerly and Southerly parts thereof. Several Latitudes on Lake Superior with the Longitude at the most westerly part thereof—which will not only determine the length of that Lake, but more accurately ascertain the distance from Captain Cook's line of coast discovered on the Western Ocean to complete this undertaking the true shape, appearance and nature of the tracts passed over must be expres'd—by a Survey which has in view the knowledge and extent of a Country which may be rendered highly beneficial to the purposes of Agriculture and greatly facilitate and encrease the Settlement and population of those dreary forrests, which from climate, excellence of soil, extensive inland navigation and contiguity to the new Establishments making rapidly by the Americans becomes daily of greater import, in the performance of this work the ambition of meeting Your Excellency's approbation and patronage would be no small Inducement towards my executing it with every possible care exactitude and dispatch.

I have the Honor to be
Your Excellency's
most obedient and
most devoted Humble Servant
JN. FDK. HOLLAND.

Endorsed: No. 3.
Mr. Holland, Letter and Proposals to His Excellency Lieut. Governor Simcoe.
In Lt. Govr. Simcoe's No. 12, of 23d Novr. 1792.

[Q 279–1, p 213]

SPEECH OF LT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE TO THE INDIANS.

Answer of His Excellency John Graves Simcoe Lieutenant Governor of His Majesty's Province of Upper Canada &c commanding His Majesty's forces in the same, to the Speech of the General Council of the several Indian Nations written underneath, delivered at the Glaize the 9th day of October 1792, and from thence transmitted to His Excellency.

Delaware's	Potowotamie's
Shawenoe's	Cherokee's
Miami's	Creeks

Chippewa's	Six Nations
Ottawa's	Seven Nations of Canada
Wyandot's	Mengoe's of the Glaize
Munsey's	Sawkee's
Connoy's	Reynards & a few
Nantikoke's	Ouiatanons and
Mohiken's	Large Bands of Warriors.

CHILDREN & BROTHERS,

I have received the Belt & Strings of Wampum, by which you take me by the hand, to lead me to your Council Fire, as soon as it shall be kindled at Lower Sandusky the ensuing Spring; The King your Father's benevolence has always been shewn to the Indian Nations, and it will ever give me pleasure, to be the instrument of his bounty & goodness in taking care of his Children.

CHILDREN & BROTHERS,

A general Council of all Nations of your colour, is an event of the greatest magnitude, and demands the most serious attention to their united transactions. I have well considered of your solemn application.

I rejoiced that you have proposed to make peace with the United States, & you may be assured of the most cordial assistance that is in my power to promote so desirable a work on Just & equitable terms.

CHILDREN & BROTHERS,

You say, "at this Council fire, which is in the center of your coun-"try, is placed the heart of all the Indian Confederacy, to which you "have always considered your Father, to be joined." The King your Father from the earliest moment of his reign, has believed this union to be necessary to your welfare, & no less so to that of the neighboring countries; and by his directions, your late superintendant general Sir William Johnson in all his Councils inculcated its propriety. The King's love for peace & his faithfulness, are proverbial throughout the Universe, & nothing could give him more sincere joy, than to exert his influence to terminate the troubles of all the Nations of the Earth.

CHILDREN & BROTHERS,

I thank you for the early information of your intentions. Your request has made a deep impression on my mind. I have little doubt but that I should have obtained permission of the King your benevolent Father to have been present at Lower Sandusky, if the United States had concurred in the Invitation.

Children & Brothers,

I will chearfully transmit to you upon this pleasing occasion, the assistance which has ever been afforded you, by the King your Father, & the provision which you request shall be forwarded to Lower Sandusky.

Children & Brothers,

I sincerely wish you health, wisdom & prosperity & that all your troubles may be terminated, by a peace being established upon a just & solid foundation; that you may follow your hunts in comfort & security, to the common advantage of all mankind.

J. G. S.

With a belt of black & white wampum.

Endorsed: No. 6.
In Genl. Clarke's to Mr. Dundas. No. 67.

[Q 62, p 157]

JOHN CRAIGIE, COMM. GEN., TO MAJ. GEN. CLARKE.

Quebec 27th October 1792.

Sir,

As the season is at hand when the communication with the Upper Posts will for a time be closed, I think it my duty to submit to Your Excellency, that if, from the circumstances stated in my letter of the 2d August last, any change from the mode hitherto followed of receiving Flour at the several settlements for the Troops should be deemed expedient, it might be proper that measures should be adopted in time, in order that information, in respect to the resources of the settlements in the article of Flour, and the terms on which supplies thereof could be obtained, may be transmitted here in the course of the winter.

For this purpose, if the supplies of Flour for the ensuing year, are to be taken on the best terms for which they can be obtained for government, I conceive the most certain way of securing to all the settlers the opportunity and advantage of this market for their produce, would be, by a public notice or advertisement "That sealed tenders would be received at the different posts on a fixed day, from all persons chusing to offer, for such quantities of Flour as may be of the first quality properly pack'd and warranted, as may be wanted. No tender to be for less than Ten Barrels, each to

contain two hundred pounds net." The quantities or a general outline may be estimated as follows for the several posts.

Kingston	200,000	pounds (including a provision for		150	Loyalists)
Niagara	560,000	(	do do	100	do.)
Detroit	400,000	(	do do	200	do.)
	1,160,000			450	

Should the encouragement hitherto given to the Settlers in Upper Canada, be continued, information will then only be requisite in regard to the resources, but in that case, effectual measures should certainly be adopted to prevent the abuse and exercise of partiality which from the supplies, in all probability, greatly exceeding the demands, must be so likely to happen, and so difficult to avoid.

This inconvenience however I conceive can only be obviated by Regulations to be made on the spot, and adopted when the Flour is received.

At all events, it is necessary that information should be transmitted in the course of the winter—in regard to the supplies which can be depended on, in order to determine the demands to be made on the contractors.

I have the honor to be
&c. &c. &c.

JOHN CRAIGIE
Comm. General.

His Excellency Major General Clarke, &c. &c. &c.

Endorsed: No. 4.
Copy of a Letter from the Commissary General to His Excellency Major General Clarke, dated at Quebec the 27th October 1792.
In Lt. Govr. Simcoe's of the 19th Decr. 1794.
In Lord Dorchester's No. 25 to Colonel Simcoe.

[Q 281–1, p 54]

GOTHER MANN TO LORD DORCHESTER.

A general view of the situation and Importance of the several Military Posts in Upper Canada; with a brief description of the Great Lakes & their communication; together with some remarks on the Frontier and the Boundary line of the Province.

The principal object and intention of this Report being to state such circumstances and to convey such necessary information as may best tend to shew the nature of our Frontiers in Upper Canada, and conduce to the forming a true idea of our situation in points

of convenience, advantage or security in that quarter; I have here drawn together such observations as occurred, with the information I acquired, chiefly in my survey of the Upper Lakes by your Lordships orders in 1788: indeed the instructions I then received led me to the consideration of many points nearly connected with the present subject; but as my report at that time involved a great variety of matter; and as such parts of it as might apply to the object here more immediately under consideration were much blended with other information, I conceive it may now be more clearly & concisely shewn by speaking distinctly as to what concerns the Frontiers and principal communications only, adding such further particulars as may be necessary here, but which might not have been thought altogether pertinent in my former Reports. In order, therefore, as far as lies in my power, to bring forward the requisite information, on which may be formed a clear idea, and an impartial Judgement of our real situation, I shall here endeavour to give a concise account of the several principal water communications and carrying places; with the nature and circumstances of the posts thereon, with such remarks as have occasionally occurred in pursuing my own observations & inquiries on the subject. In doing this I have no hopes of offering any thing beyond what your Lordship is already informed of; but it may not now be altogether useless to collect & bring into one view those circumstances applying merely to the object in question, which may have been at different times stated, together with such other particulars as may also perhaps have been adverted to, but have not been the subjects of any official Report.

As the trade with Upper Canada, and all the Fur Country to the Westward, is chiefly carried on from Montreal, and as this is the point from whence the departure for the Great Lakes is taken, it seems very natural and proper that any account of the communications with them would likewise begin here, I shall therefore conform to that idea.

There is not any military post on Lake Erie; and there is not any Harbour on the North Shore in its whole extent from Fort Erie to the streights leading to Detroit, there is no shelter therefore for vessels but the precarious on which they may sometimes find under the principal Head Lands, as Pointe Abinaw, Long

Point and Point au Pin; or under some of the Islands lying near the entrance of the Streights; but these great projecting points of Land are disadvantageous to coasting in Boats (an object of great consequence in this Country) and render it so hazardous that it is seldom attempted, they generally go round by the South Shore. The only Harbours are on that shore, of which the principal are at Presque Isle, Sandusky Lake, and Miami Bay; but if the Boundary of the British possessions should be run as has been described "along the middle of Lake Erie," from the last mentioned communication, "to the water communication between that Lake and Lake Huron," we must of course lose two Harbours with the whole of the Southern and Western Shores of the Lake, should however a Boundary more favourable to us be settled, and the Lake left in our possession, I think the security of the Frontier might be very materially encreased by establishing posts at Presque Isle and on the Miami on Sandusky River, but I am not aware that in the event of giving up that Country, we could substitute any situations on our side of the Lake that would counterbalance any of the advantages of these; the greater attention must therefore be paid to the strength and security of those we may think requisite to form on the communications. Before I entirely quit Lake Erie I think a few more observations are due to Presque Isle considering it as a situation deserving particular notice, not only on account of the Harbour being an exceeding good one, and the Land about it remarkably fine, but because there is plenty of good Oak Timber in the neighborhood; and the place is admirably well adapted for Ship Building; and what may still render it of greater consequence is that from hence there are very practicable communications through a fertile and easy country, into the populous parts of the States of Pennsylvania and Virginia.

The Communication between Lakes Erie and Huron is something more than ninety miles long, including Lake St. Clair which is about twenty miles over, Detroit is the only Military Post here, and stands on the Western Shore, where the River is about half a mile wide, and is distant from the entrance of the streights from Lake Erie about eighteen miles. The ground at this place has not any striking features. The Post stands however on an easy elevation and is not commanded; and has been perhaps orginally chosen more for the protection of the settlement against the Indians, than in any view to its future consequence as to the defence of the pass and the safety of the Frontier on a more extended Scale. But a post in this quarter being essentially necessary, and circumstances not hav-

ing perhaps yet rendered it expedient to take new ground, this has of course continued to be attended to, and it has by your Lordship's orders before I left Canada, been put into the best posture of defence that the situation and nature of it would admit of; but whenever a permanent system for the defence and security of our Frontiers, Settlements and Trade, shall be under consideration, I think a much preferable position for combining those objects may be looked to, I mean that which I have already noticed in a former Report (in 1788) and is on the East main shore, near the entrance of the Streights from Lake Erie and opposite the Isle aux Bois Blanc, where there is a good situation for Naval business, and a safe & commodious Harbour; which may be well protected; and although on account of the width of the River, Boats could pass along the Western shore unmolested from the Works here, yet the Ship Channel would at this place be effectually commanded; the ground here has a good elevation, and the place could not be annoyed from any part of the opposite shore, for although the ship Channel is narrow the River is wide. Should therefore a Boundary Line ever be run limiting the British to the Eastern Shore and middle of the Water Communication between the Lakes Erie and Huron, this place will be a resource of some security to our navigation: but whether that Boundary should ever be concluded on or not, still this situation is preferable as a place of arms to any other that I am acquainted with on this communication on either side of the water; its vicinity also to Lake Erie will give us the readiest means of counteracting the designs of any Enemy on that Lake or its borders. As there are several Islands and some of considerable magnitude on this communication both below and above Lake St Clair, the same difficulty would arise here, with respect to them, in drawing a Boundary Line "along the middle of the Water Communication," as what I have already stated in speaking of other parts of the Frontier. This communication is the passage for the Trade with the North West Country and with the Mississippi by way of Lake Michigan except what may pass by the Grand or Ottawas River, but as there is a shoal muddy bank where it falls into Lake St Clair, vessels drawing more than seven or eight feet water cannot navigate. From Lake St. Clair up to Lake Huron there is everywhere plenty of water; the current is very strong throughout, and the River is in general about three quarters of a mile wide, except at the entrance of Lake Huron, where it is not so much. The land on both sides is good & therefore

very proper for settlements, those already formed are chiefly on the Western Shore.

The only Military Station in Lake Huron is on the Island of Michilimakinac, which is about nine miles in circumference, near the Western Extremity of the Lake; and is the most advanced Military Post to the Westward which we occupy in this Country, it is distant from Montreal by way of the Lakes, in gross numbers, about nine hundred miles; and in a direct line of Longitude about ten degrees; Montreal being nearly in 73° 40′ 20′′, and Michilimakinac in about 84°. As to the state of defence here, but little can be said, the works injudiciously designed and begun in the last war were never half finished, but had they been compleated they would have been very far from answering the great expence incurred. The only object pursued here lately, as to the Works has been to keep the .place in such a temporary state of repair and defence, as might make it looked to with some sort of respect by the Indians, and consequently give a proportional degree of safety and protection to the Trade, which is certainly a matter of no small consequence, considering that this is the great place of rendezvous both going and returning of all who are employed in collecting the Furs, whether from the Mississippi by Lake Michigan, or from the North West Country; and that the supplies for carrying on that trade are generally compleated here. The Bay on which the Stores and Merchants houses are built is convenient for shipping, and is pretty well sheltered by an Island lying opposite to it. There is no good Harbour between the Entrance of the Lake from Detroit, and Michilimakinac, but vessels may be partially protected from particular winds at a place called Presque Isle, or under the Traverse Islands in Sagana Bay. The North and part of the Eastern Coasts of the Lake are full of small Islands and Rocks and the remainder of the Eastern Coast is an open beach for more than one hundred and fifty miles, on which in westerly winds, which are prevalent here, and which raise a prodigious swell in the Lake, the Surf beats with very great violence. The Navigation therefore on either of these coasts is extremely dangerous in any thing but birch canoes which may be readily carried ashore on the approach of bad weather. It is true there is water sufficient for vessels in the entrance of French River, and depth for any Tonnage in Matchedash Bay, and there are also some small Bays where there might be shelter, but all these would be difficult to come at in heavy gales of wind, at the time they would be most wanted. Lake Michigan is not less than three hundred miles

long, and in its widest part about seventy five miles broad. A great number of Rivers fall into it on all sides, but they are mostly small, very few of them having water sufficient for any vessels to enter. There is not any Settlement on this Lake, the French formerly had one near the bottom of it upon the River St Joseph, but this has been so long abandoned that it is said there are now but few vestiges of it remaining.

From the bottom of the Lake there is a short portage to a branch of the Illinois River, and thence a direct passage to the Mississippi. The Country on the borders of the Lake, particularly to the Southward is said to be remarkably fine & level, a great part of it naturally clear, and that the soil is extremely rich. If the Frontier Boundary should be run "from the Water-Communication between Lakes Erie and Huron along the middle of the East Lake, to the water Communication between it and Lake Superior" we must of course lose the whole of Lake Michigan; The post of Michilimakinac on Lake Huron; with all the South and West Shores of that Lake; the north and Eastern Shores only would remain in our possession. I have already observed on the little convenience these would afford to navigation in vessels, and I have as little to say in their favor in respect to their being propitious for Settlements, a part only of the East Shore is good land, all the North and the remainder of the East Shore from the Streights of St Mary down to Matchadash Bay is a barren inhospitable Coast for an extent of upwards of three hundred miles.

The communication between the Lakes Huron and Superior has at its entrance a great number of Islands, beyond these are what are called the Falls of St Mary; these Falls however are nothing more than a strong, and in some parts broken, Rapid of about half a mile wide and a mile long, navigable for Canoes, and even for small vessels, but not without risque, therefore not often attempted by them. The Canoes generally go up light, and come down with only a part of their cargo; there is a short portage on the South Shore, and on this side the business of the communication is at present transacted, but the opposite shore might at some expence be made to answer the purpose equally well. The navigation might be impeded by an enemy on either side, in this respect therefore there seems no preference, but if a post of any consequence was to be taken anywhere in this quarter, it might be worth while to enquire into the particular merits of a point of land on the North shore at the extremity of this Communication and entrance of Lake Superior, called Pointe au Pin, which

I have heard greatly praised as possessing many desirable advantages, not only on account of its being at the head of the Communication, but because it has a good harbour, well calculated for defence and might be easily Fortified; but as I have no personal knowledge of the Country beyond the Falls of St Mary, and as my information concerning Pointe au Pin, does not come from any military characters, I cannot rely entirely on its having all the good properties for a Post which are ascribed to it; it is probable however that it has some striking features, or it would not have been so particularly noticed.

Lake Superior has some good Bays and anchoring-places under the Islands along the East and North Shores, which is the usual route of the Canoes between the Falls of St Mary and the Grande Portage, but it is mostly a rocky and barren coast, and may on the whole be considered as rather dangerous for Vessels; the South Shore is still more open and exposed, having very few places where a vessel could find shelter; the best land is on this side of the Lake, but it is said to be far from good even here. From the north shore and within about eighty miles of the Western extremity of the Lake begins the Grande Portage, which is about nine miles long and leads westward to a chain of small Lakes sometimes called long Lake. The Grande Portage is the last place of rendezvous of the Fur Traders who assemble here from May to the end of August, they here take Canoes of a smaller size than those brought from Montreal, and from hence separate into small parties, and pursue their route over the immense Continent between this and the Pacific ocean, and after perhaps three or four years absence meet here again on their return to Montreal with the Furs they have been able to collect.

With respect to the Frontier-Boundary in this quarter it has been described to run from the Communication with Lake Huron "Through Lake Superior northward of the Isles Royale and Phillippeaux to the long Lake; thence through the middle of the said long Lake and the water communication between it and the Lake of the Woods, to the said Lake of the Woods; thence through the said Lake to the most north western point thereof, and from thence on a due West Course to the River Mississippi," by this Boundary we should lose the South Shore of Lake Superior and Isle Royale which lies nearly opposite the Grande Portage, at about six or seven leagues distant from the main, it is about sixty miles long and twenty broad; but the existence of such an Island as Isle Phillippeaux or any other which can answer the idea of its situation, has not I apprehend been yet satisfactorily

ascertained by any person who has been on this Lake, and it is particularly objected to by Mr. Hugh Moore in his manuscript account of Lake Superior which I saw in your Lordships possession at Quebec.

I have mentioned such posts as our security will seem to demand on our side of the Lakes; the degree of strength and consequence to be given them must be determined by what may be the probable future circumstances of the Country; those which should be considered as the principal points of defence are opposite Isle au Bois Blanc Navy Hall and Kingston. Something may be necessary towards Lake Superior, but I cannot ascertain the best situation for it.

GOTHER MANN
Captain of Royal Engineers.

LONDON 29th Oct. 1792.

To the Right Honble Lord Dorchester, &c. &c. &c.

Indorsed:
Captn Mann's Report on the Posts in Canada.

[Q 57–2, p 290]

PROCEEDINGS OF AN INDIAN COUNCIL.

Proceedings of a Council of the Six Nations held at Buffaloe Creek.

TUESDAY November 13th 1792.

Present,

Lt Colonel Butler Agt I. D.
Major of Brigade Littlehales
Lt. Talbot 24th Regt
Lt. Grey 7th or R. F.
W. B. Shehan } Interpreters.
Wm. Johnston }

} By order of His Excellency Lt. Governor Simcoe.

With the Chiefs of the Seneca, Onandago, Cayuga, Tuscarawa Indians and their Allies, Delawares &c. &c. c&.

On the part of the United States. Mr. Chapin (son of the Superintendant General) Mr. Parrish Interpreter.

Cow Killer—a Seneca Chief Spoke thus.

BROTHERS,

Give attention to what we are going to say. We are happy to see the King's people, and those of the United States side by side; We last winter went by Invitation to Philadelphia; upon our return we reported our proceedings to the King's Superintendant who seemed pleased with them.

The United States recommended our mediation in making a peace with our Western Brethren; and being also solicited by them to attend; The King's people furnished us with every assistance, and sent a person with us; We accordingly went to Detroit, where we met with every attention, and were amply provided to the place of our Destination.

BROTHERS,

While at the Council of the Glaize, our Brethren called us Elder Brothers; said, they had often sent to us for four years past for our Advice and assistance.

White Belt six Rows of Wampum.

BROTHERS,

After the above was delivered we asked why the great Council Fire was kindled and if they had any thing on their minds?—They replied "*that* was not all they wished to mention; that four years ago they sent an express to their Elder Brethren, informing them of their situation.—The answer the Six Nations returned was, they were all of one colour, and ought to be *firm* and *united*; in consequence of which they received a large bunch of Wampum, containing the Sentiments of twenty different Indian Nations.

BROTHERS,

"After receiving the message from our Elder Brethren we took their pipe, and one Confederacy smoked it, and returned the same with all our opinions.

BROTHERS,

"We now return the Pipe, and hope you (our Elder Brethren) will smoke it with the same sentiments you offered it to us.

BROTHERS,

"We the Six Nations after having smoked out of the Pipe, said *we* were all of one mind, in ancient times our Forefathers were at war with each other, some nations occasioned Disturbances amongst us perhaps it was the Will of the great Spirit; We the Six Nations then exerted ourselves to procure peace; in process of time the English *Our Fathers*, came to trade with us, they demanded a small

piece of ground; this we granted, they still solicited for more Land. They assisted the Indians when they became settlers in making peace, and recommended all we have hitherto done, that we ought to be of one mind. We told the Hurons we conceived them to be the promoters of the existing troubles and thanked our Brethren in general for defending our property.

BROTHERS,

"Tho' we were happy at your success in repelling the late Invasion of *your* Territories yet we recommend the advice of the King (our Father) to keep possession of your Country by making an Adequate Peace.

BROTHERS,

"When the White People arrived at Albany, the great King and the Americans were one; our Father Sir William Johnson had the care of us, we then agreed to give the white people Lands East of the Ohio the *Boundary Line;* selling other Lands to the East of that *Boundary Line,* was the cause of breaking the minds of the Indians.

BROTHERS,

"Attention; we hold this Pipe, you call us Brothers, we wish uanimity, that the chain of Friendship may be brightened; we will cordially assist you, to hold it, and to carry the heavy burthen.

After delivering the above Speech the Shawenese answered.

BROTHERS,

"Tho we call you Elder Brethren, we look upon it you do not speak from your *Hearts,* as you are but just come from counselling with the Americans, we know you have Intercourse with them." When this was said, they told us they would adjourn, and desired us to make our minds easy, as they would speak more freely. We replyed we shall now go back to (the Interpreters) Johnston and relate what has passed.

On reassembling we spoke as follows.

BROTHERS,

"You consider us as people who speak only from our Lips, and that we converse with what you call *Yankies,* its true we have held Treaties with the United States, the British have advised it when for our Interest, but we never lost sight of the Confederacy; you seem Jealous of our Intercourse with the States, we are independent people and not biased by British or Americans."

BROTHERS,

"All the time the English and French were at war, they were fighting for this Island, the French were conquered, soon after the

people now called Americans disagreed with the English; and in the contest the King was thrown down; and gave up this Country to the States.

This is the language the states hold forth to us; They consider themselves the proprietors of these Lands, in the same manner the King did; when he took them from the French and could shew them upon paper.

BROTHERS,

This being related our Western Brethren did not appear to comprehend it, owing to the Interpreter, but when it was explained by another Interpreter, the Confederacy were satisfied, and promised to abide by our advice, and thanked us for following the wise measures of our Forefathers.

Western Nations then spoke.

BROTHERS,

"We give you sincere thanks for what you have related; the States last autumn sent an army into our Country commanded by General Butler to proceed to the Glaize, if he met friendly people, they were to be unmolested; from thence he was to march to the foot of the Miami Rapids, and so on to Detroit, but he was not to act offensively to the garrison; these were his orders from General Washington.

BROTHERS,

"This Army came into our Country, we defeated them, we consider ourselves sole proprietors of this Land, and tho' Washington is *lately* become a great man, we are resolved to receive no Messages from him by the Bloody road.

ELDER BRETHREN,

"We are and shall always look upon ourselves as the sole owners of this Country, but as peace is good, we are willing to follow your advice, and will listen to the Voice of Peace from the Americans, provided it is for our Interests, we have no objection to meet them (the Americans) at Sandusky.

BROTHERS,

"We are determined to follow your advice to take care of our Women and Children, in former times you recommended the strictest union, which we have always adhered to. We will make peace, in an equitable manner; but if we cannot obtain it upon those conditions, we expect you conformable to our ancient compact, will assist us to protect our Women and children; and as you have an

open Road, we request you to communicate our Sentiments to the President of the United States.

ELDER BRETHREN,

The President we hear from you, is desirous to speak to us, and has delivered his wishes to that effect thro' you, we desire you to acquaint him we will meet the States early in the Spring at Sandusky; at the same time to signify, that we claim some Lands on the East side of the Ohio, purchased from Individuals not authorized to dispose of them, we give up these Lands as a compensation for our Lands on the West side of the River Ohio.

The Cowkiller then continued his Speech having finished repeating the transactions at the Miami.

BROTHERS,

We give it in charge to remember us to the great Man at Niagara, who we understand is lately arrived from England, and has the care of the Indians as well as White People, in this part of the Country, we urge it to you to request his attendance at the proposed Council, at Sandusky, next Spring; Colonel Butler has been long acquainted with our affairs, we therefore solicit his attendance, and hope our Father will consider us, and provide some provisions at the place of meeting; We conclude by observing that if the Governor, or his representative does not meet us, and those persons deputed by the United States do not also meet us, we shall suppose they do not wish for peace.

Four strings of Black & White Wampum.

Addressed to Mr. Chapin.

BROTHERS,

You represent the United States, we were sent by you to the Westward, and have related what passed there.

BROTHERS,

Give attention—

We address you in the same manner as the President of Congress;—by his desire, we went to the Westward; the road is opened for him to pursue, and accomplish the desired peace; We have repeated your wishes to the Western Nations and explained them; there is a peaceful path and a bloody one, prevent your armies from proceeding in that Country, and enable us to render that service you seem so desirous of. The Six Nations are now returned, and have contributed as much as possible their assistance, with

their Western Brethren, to restore peace; We hope the United States will not by any improper means, defeat the intended purposes; for should such be the case, as it is the wish of the Indians, to live in peace, they will look upon the President of the States as the cause of its not taking place.

A Belt eight rows Black & White Wampum.

We expect sensible persons will be appointed to attend the Council, and that all the Records of purchases of Lands, Treaties and Documents, Maps &c, since the first arrival of the white people among us, will be brought and produced by them, as they will then be particularly investigated.

Four strings of Black and White Wampum.

We request what we have now said, may be immediately communicated by *Express* to Congress, and an answer sent back to us as soon as possible without any delay that we may make our Western Brethren acquainted with it; as it is a matter requiring our most serious consideration.

Brothers,

More particularly addressed to Colonel Butler.

We have related all our Business to the Westward and we now repeat we cannot negotiate any thing at the proposed place of assembling (viz.) Sandusky, without the Governors and your (Col. Butler's) presence it being a matter of the most essential Importance to us; we therefore hope you will be prepared to clear up all doubts and to be active and alive to our Interests as Reflections have been insinuated that when we formerly consulted the commanding officers they could not give us final answers, we trust that is now obviated, and that the Governor will make a Speedy Reply.

Brothers,

We expect the Governor will bring to Sandusky all papers, Maps Records and treaties relative to us Indians.

A Belt eight Rows of Black & White Wampum.

Brothers,

It gives us great pleasure to see you who represent the King Our Father and the United States setting in Council together, it has been very different for some years past when you were much divided in your Sentiments.

Adjourned.

Novr 14th.

Present the same as yesterday. Colonel Butler called the attention of all the Chiefs to listen to the answer I (Major of Brigade Littlehales) was going to give them to their Speech of yesterday, as follows.

Brothers of the Six Nations, and Your Allies, Sachems, Chiefs and Warriors,

I am deputed by the Governor, who resides at Niagara, the Representative of the King Your Father, to meet you at this Council Fire.

Brothers,

I have listened attentively to what you repeated yesterday respecting the transactions of yourselves and Western Brethren at the Miamis; it will afford peculiar satisfaction to find your endeavors have proved in some measure successful as you know it has been recommended by the King your Father to negotiate matters amicably, well convinced it is for your Interests.

Brothers,

I shall communicate Your Invitation to the Governor to attend the Council at Sandusky next Spring and to bring with him all the Records, Treaties and Documents of every description relative to the Indians and I am well persuaded he will embrace the earliest opportunity of sending you an answer.

Brothers,

I cannot conclude without the strongest assurances of the Governors firm attachment and Friendship for his Brothers of the Six Nations as well as all the Indians; and I am confident he will be particularly happy to render every possible assistance, consistent with his situation, to bring about that peace, apparently, so very essential to *your Interests.*

Mr. Chapin then spoke.

Brothers,

You that are present belonging to the Six Nations give attention.

Brothers,

I come here in behalf of Congress representing my Father the Superintendant General of Indian Affairs. I am sorry he is not here.

Brothers,

I rejoice that the British and the Indians and the people of the States are altogether at your Council Fire. I shall send on an

Express directly to the Board of War with exact minutes of all your proceedings, indeed I shall most probably go myself. I shall give a faithful account of everything.

Brothers,

I shall particularly mention what you said about the meeting at Sandusky next Spring and your wish that good persons may be sent to that Council.

Brothers,

(Parish the American Interpreter translated this Speech to the Indians at the Conclusion of every sentence *here* the Cowkiller interrupted him, and said not only good persons, but sensible proper people no Land Jobbers but such as Colonel Pickering) Mr. Chapin proceeded.

Brothers,

I, or my Father, will acquaint the States, that you particularly desire that all papers, Maps, Treaties and Records between the White People and the Indians may be brought to your Council at Sandusky next Spring.

Adjourned.

Endorsed:
Proceedings of a Council of the Six Nations at Buffaloe Creek 13th Novr. 1792.
In Lt. Govr. Simcoe's No. 12, of 23d Novr. 1792.

[Q 279–1, p 191]

LT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE TO GEORGE HAMMOND.

Navy Hall, Niagara Novr. 17th 1792.

Sir,

I presume that Mr. Givens has, before this, safely delivered to your Excellency my Letter & inclosures; containing the result of the Indian Councils at the Miamis River.

Captain Littlehales, being desirous of visiting the United States, at this dead season of the year, will proceed immediately to Philadelphia & convey to Your Excellency the Speeches which *He* lately received from the Six Nations at Buffaloe Creek, in consequence of a request sent to me by those people desiring that I would order a British officer to be present at the delivery of the message, which they were intrusted by the Western Nations, to transmit to

the Congress. It includes, of course, the united Requisition of the Indians, that I should be present at Sandusky & bring with me the ancient Treaties &c which were held with them before the King had declared the Independancy of the United States.

I am to beg your opinion on what answer it will be necessary for me to give to these people, our ancient Allies and True Friends, who as you will perceive, have declared that they shall construe a refusal, on my part, to be present at Sandusky, as an evidence that the British do not wish for Peace; a doctrine that in direct contradiction, to the Servants of Government. Self-interested Traders may have taught them. In this Dilemma I request your immediate advice.

I am &c.

J. Graves Simcoe.

His Excellency George Hammond, &c. &c.

Endorsed:
His Excellency Lt. Govr. Simcoe'e Letter to His Excellency George Hammond.
In Lt. Govr. Simcoe's No. 12, of 23d Novr. 1792. (2)

[Q 279-1, p 205]

HENRY DUNDAS TO LT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE.

White Hall 6th Decemr. 1792.

Lieut Govr. Simcoe,

I have received your Letter of the 20th of August last together with one private of the same date inclosing a copy of a letter from you to Lieut Governor Clerck, the last of which I have read with particular attention.

His Majesty's Servants are aware of the Inconveniences which arise from the want of a final Adjustment of the Boundary between His Majesty's Dominions and the American States and to effect which they will neglect no means which promises success, nor fail to seize the most favorable opportunity which may occur for that purpose.

In the mean time it is almost unnecessary to add that too much care cannot be taken (consistently with the protection of His Majesty's Subjects and the security of the Posts in Our Possession) that in all matters of dispute between His Majesty's Subjects and those of the American States, His Majesty's Government in Canada should be such as to preclude the possibility of a spirit of ill-humor

and discontent existing at the time when propositions for the completion of so desirable an object are likely to be brought forward.

I am &c.

HENRY DUNDAS.

Enclosed: Drat.
To Lt. Govr. Simcoe. Decemr. 1792.

[Q 278, p 219]

SPEECH OF H. KNOX TO THE INDIANS.

To the Sachems, Chiefs & Warriors of the Wyandots, Delawares, Ottawas, Chippewas, Pottawatamies, Shawanese, and Miamis and the Head men of all the other Tribes in alliance with them, to the Southward of the Lakes and North of the Ohio, and East of the Mississippi.

BROTHERS,

We have heard your voice and received your Messages, through our good friends the Six Nations, appointing the time, when the leaves shall be full out the next Spring, to meet the Commissioners of the United States at the Rapids of the Miami River which runs into Lake Erie.

The President of the United States, embraces your proposal and he will send Commissioners, to meet you at the time and place appointed, with the sincere desire of removing all causes of difference, so that we may be always hereafter good Friends and Brothers.

It is desired that there may be a full assembly of all the Chiefs and Head men of all your Tribes, so that the peace, which it is hoped will then be concluded, may be fully known, and perfectly observed by all the parties.

The United States will endeavour to furnish by the way of Canada and the Lakes, a full supply of Provisions during the Treaty; but lest there should any unforseen obstacles to the measure, a supply will also be forwarded to our nearest Posts to you, for this purpose; and it will be expected that there be no interruption on your part to the transportation thereof. We shall prevent any of our Parties, going into the Indian Country, so that you may with your Women & Children, rest in full Security; and we desire, and shall expect, that you call in all your Warriors, and prevent their going out again. It will be in vain to expect peace, while they continue their depredations on the frontiers.

Given, by order of the President of the United States, in the city of Philadelphia, this twelfth day of December one thousand seven hundred and ninety two.

H. KNOX Secretary of War,
having the direction of Indian Affairs.

Endorsed: No. 3.
In General Clarke's to Mr. Dundas. (No. 67.)

[Q 62, p 152]

ALEXANDER HAMILTON TO GEORGE HAMMOND.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT Decemr. 29th 1792.

SIR,

From the opinion you have been so obliging as to express that arrangements may probably be made in Upper Canada for procuring a supply, from that quarter, of the Indians, expected to assemble at O'Glaise in the ensuing Spring for the purpose of holding a treaty with this government.

I have the honor to inform you, that I have concluded to send an agent into the territory of Upper Canada to endeavour to effect contracts for the above mentioned supply; and as you have authorized me to do, shall count on your good offices to facilitate the object of his mission, when the person shall be determined upon, it will be made known to you.

It is impossible for us to foresee with certainty the number of persons who will be assembled. We conjecture however that they will amount to about five thousand, men, women & children; and that they may remain together six weeks. These are the only data we have, as to the quantum of supply, which may be requisite.

Any contract however which may be formed must embrace as much more as may be found necessary.

All details will of course be committed to the Agent who shall be sent.

I have the honor to be, &c.

ALEXANDER HAMILTON.

His Excellency George Hammond, Esqr.

Endorsed: No. 5.
In Genl. Clarke's to Mr. Dundas. (No. 67.)

[Q 62, p 156]

LETTER RESPECTING WESTERN INDIANS.

Extract of a Letter from the Glaize dated 5th of January 1793.

"The Council about to be held when you left this place is now over. The answer given the young man is this—"They will enter into no terms of accommodation with the People of the Posts, Kentuckė, or the Commanders of these Posts, they have already (to the Mingoes) declared their intentions of meeting the American Commissioners at Sandusky next Spring, where their Father is also to be invited. They do not think the Commanders of the Forts nor the people of Kentuckė, authorized by Congress, to conclude a peace with them, and of consequence they decline their offers and refer every thing to the proposed treaty at Sandusky."

The young man I am told (altho' I have not seen them) had had delivered in Council some Letters addressed to Pipe and Talebaxuche, which from what I can learn are from one John Hamilton; what their import may be I do not yet know; but any thing that comes to my knowledge on that head shall be immediately transmitted to Colonel McKee, and you will be good enough to communicate to the Colonel the answer the Indians made to his request. The young man endeavoured to prevail on some of their chiefs to accompany him to Fort Jefferson but they declined it for the reasons above mentioned.

Endorsed: No. 3.
In Genl. Clarke's to Mr. Dundas. No. 70.

[Q 62, p 176]

LIEUT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE TO GEORGE HAMMOND.

NAVY HALL, NIAGARA Jany. 21st 1793.

SIR,

I am honored this moment with Your Excellency's dispatches of the 4th of January by Captain Littlehales.

Your opinions on the general conduct to be held by this government at the expected negotiation between the Indian Americans and the United States perfectly coincide with my Ideas, and I cannot but feel myself relieved from a very great Embarrassment by the methods which your Excellency has taken to predispose the Ministers of the States to expect the presence of Colonels McKee and Butler at the meeting.

I am essentially satisfied that your Excellency has also prepared Mr. Jefferson to expect that my answer to the solemn request of the Indian Nations will be couched in such terms as shall be sufficiently explicit of the good wishes of this government.

But upon mature deliberation and consultation separately with Colonel Butler and Joseph Brant, I must decline the giving permission to the Agents of the States, to purchase Provisions in this Colony for the supply of the Indian Meeting. In consequence of the request of the Indians for our Assistance particularly for Provisions, which Your Excellency will see in the proceedings of the General Council, I have already taken such steps as are usual to obtain the adequate supplies, the Expence is a matter of consideration and regret, but Colonel Butler having assured me that it would be indispensibly necessary for him and Colonel McKee at all events to have a certain quantity of Provisions to entertain the Indians with during the frequent applications which may be expected to be made to them for advice, and Captain Brant giving it as his opinion that the Indians would feel themselves less independant, if they were victualled by the United States, during the Negotiation. I could not hesitate on the ground of expediency to incur the expense which I conceive will not much exceed the annual supplies.

But, Sir, I beg to offer to your recollection that every transaction relative to Indian Affairs flows in the Military Channel and tho' doubtless for any purpose of obvious utility I should venture to break through the general course of what has been systematically adopted by the Commanders in Chief, and make use of my own discretion, yet I by no means think myself justified to do so in this present instance. I inclose for Your Excellency's perusal an Extract from Sir William Johnson's Letter to the Board of Trade, on which our system of management of the Indians seems to me to have been expressly founded, and which states that as the successors to the French, it is necessary that we should supply the wants of the Indians, as an acknowledgement to them, that we hold the Posts by their permission, from hence has arisen the constant necessity that the Government of Canada has been under of supplying the wants of any Assemblage of the Savages for any purpose whatsoever; and consequently the standing orders of these Posts have always been to this Effect, and tho of late years they have been so modified that all our presents, whether to the Indians within our Territories or on our Frontiers, are sent

to some distance from our Posts, this has been done principally with a view to rescue the Savage from being the victim of his own debauchery, and the rapacity of our Traders. Such is the ancient and general system of our management of the Indians which only requires to be known, to convince the subjects of the States, of the Interest Great Britain has, that Indians should not be assembled together as it is so burthensome and expensive to her; and that the support which they receive from her by no means arises from new or temporary considerations, but is the result of long established custom.

It is therefore, Sir, peculiarly a subject of regret to me that I feel myself called upon not to admit such an Innovation as has been requested of your Excellency, and particularly as I have reason to believe that had I admitted of it the Agents of the State would have found it very difficult to have obtained sufficient supplies, without I had extended the permission beyond what I could have convinced myself warranted to have done, and allowed him to have taken Provisions from His Majesty's Magazines.

The Indians having been informed that their request for Provisions will be attended to; I am certain that they will never suffer the United States to forward a supply thro' their Country, of which they have hitherto been extremely Jealous, and which as it appears to me has been inserted in the Speech delivered to Captain Brant, a copy of which I forward to Your Excellency, without due deliberation, or is by no means calculated to promote any pacific Intentions.

I have the honor to be &c &c

J. G Simcoe.

His Excellency George Hammond, Esqr., &c. &c. &c.

Endorsed: No. 2.
In Genl. Clarke's to Mr. Dundas. (No. 67).

[Q 62, p 148]

LT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE TO COL. A. MC KEE.

Extract of a Letter from His Excellency Colonel Simcoe's Letter to Colonel McKee dated Navy Hall January 23rd 1793.

"You will see by the Speech that is now transmitted by Captain Brant, that the States have agreed to meet the Indians at Miami Rapids, by which I understand *Sandusky*, and I presume whether this alteration be thro' design or by accident, that the Indian Confederacy will adhere to the place of meeting being at *Sandusky*."

"It appears also by this Speech, that the *States* will endeavour to furnish by the Lakes provisions during the Treaty, and also. least, there should be a deficiency, it is intimated they expect that they shall be permitted to furnish what Provisions may be wanting from the nearest Posts to the Indian Country; it is evident therefore, that they mean to establish Provisions & Magazines, under that Pretext upon the Line, by which they are advancing their Posts between Fort Washington and that Fortress which the Letters intercepted at St Clair's defeat mention, they mean to erect at the Miami Rapids; I cannot but fear from these circumstances, that some collusion is intended. Application has been made to *me* for permission to furnish the supplies at the expence of the United States, from this Quarter, and to transport them across the Lakes in the King's Vessels; this request I have declined the compliance with, as at all events the Indian Confederacy may be *assured* that their *prior* request for Provisions shall be complied with to its usual and necessary extent; of which I beg of you without delay to give me the best *probable* information in your power, together with the account of what your Settlement can afford and what may be the price of every necessary Species of Provisions—and the best mode of conveyance. I have this day forwarded to Mr. Hammond my refusal of this request of the States and attributing it among other reasons to its being our invariable system as Possessors of the Forts to assist the Indians, from whatever cause they may be assembled, with Provisions."

Endorsed: No. 4.
In Genl. Clarke's to Mr. Dundas. (No. 67.)

[Q 62, p 154]

LIEUT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE'S ANSWER TO THE SIX NATIONS.

Answer of His Excellency John Graves Simcoe Lieutenant Governor of His Majesty's Province of Upper Canada, and Commanding His Majesty's Forces in the same, to a Speech of the Six Nations delivered at Buffaloe Creek, Novemr. 13th 1792.

Brothers of the Six Nations,

I have received your speech in which you express your wish that I should meet you and the Western Indians at Lower Sandusky early in the Spring, to assist in bringing about a peace, between the United States and the Indian Confederacy.

You say "if I or some Representative of the King do not meet "you there, you shall suppose that this government does not wish "for peace!"

Brothers,

Your request and that of the Western Indians has made a deep impression on my mind, I have well considered your words, and it is impossible that I can be silent to so solemn an application.

Brothers,

The King your Father, has invariably regarded the Six Nations with benevolence & friendship; His love for Peace is well known to all mankind, and He would be happy to see it established between the Indian Nations & the United States.

Brothers,

I have little doubt but that I should have obtained his gracious permission, to have accepted of your invitation, and to have been present at the proposed meeting at Lower Sandusky, had the United States concurred in your request.

Brothers,

I should be happy, in any degree to be instrumental in so good work, and to see peace established upon equitable & lasting foundations.

Brothers,

You say "That Colonel Butler, Your Superintendant, has long "been acquainted with your affairs, and you therefore solicit his "attendance, at the General Council to be held at Lower Sandusky."

"You desire that all records of purchases of Lands, Treaties, Documents, and Maps, may be there produced, that all doubts may "be cleared up, and all rights investigated."

"You desire that adequate provisions to the meeting, may be "forwarded to Lower Sandusky."

Brothers,

I will direct the Superintendant to meet you, and He shall be furnished with the writings &c, which you require, and such provisions as may be necessary.

Brothers,

"You thank me for so readily complying with your requisition, "in sending one of His Majesty's officers, to personate me at your "late Council."

"You say that it gave you great satisfaction to see the King's "Superintendant, his officers, and the Representative of the United "States, setting together at your Council Fire."

BROTHERS,

All the people on this Land, the Indian Nations, the King's subjects & those of the United States have one common interest in the blessings of a lasting peace.

BROTHERS,

No Peace can be lasting, that is not fairly made upon equitable conditions.

BROTHERS,

I sincerely wish, that such a Peace may be attainable, that the Indian Nations in perfect tranquility, may follow their hunts and occupations, to their benefit & that of the neighboring countries.

BROTHERS,

I shall at all times be ready to give you the best advice in my power, and I earnestly therefore recommend to you, not to lose sight of so desirable an object as that of peace.

BROTHERS,

Assure yourselves of the friendship of the King your Father, and of the regard of His people in general, and in particular of the affection of myself and the Inhabitants of this Colony.

J. G. S.

A belt of black and white wampum eight rows.

NAVY HALL January 27th 1793.

Endorsed: No. 7.
In Genl. Clarke's to Mr. Dundas. No. 67.

[Q 62, p 160]

LIEUT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE TO LIEUT. GOV. ALURED CLARKE.

NAVY HALL January 27th 1793.

SIR,

Having had a very satisfactory Intercourse with Mr. Hammond, by the means of Major Brigade Littlehales, who returned from Philadelphia on the 20th, I think it necessary to communicate without loss of time some late Transactions to Your Excellency, reserving for a safer opportunity the copies of *all* the letters that have passed between that Gentleman & myself.

You will have seen by the speech sent to me, by the Western Indians as well as by that of the Six Nations, that they have proposed the meeting with the States to be held at *Lower Sandusky;* and so it was understood by Mr. Chapin, the Superintendant of the United States at the Council with the latter people; and as he was the only Channel of Communication between them & that government, It must in that form have been delivered to Mr. Knox, but, you will find, Sir, by Mr Knox's answer that the Place is changed to the *Rapids* of the *Miami River* with what view, I have expressed my Ideas in the enclosed Extract from a Letter which I have written to Colonel McKee, for I can scarcely conceive that after the Place of meeting was left to the Indians themselves, in the message sent by the Six Nations to the Confederacy (& as Capt Brant has assured me) That Mr. Knox has changed it, in order to colour any Intent that he may have formed, to render all Views of Peace ineffectual in the very outset, I cannot but remark to you, that in two separate conversations which Capt Littlehales held with Mr. Hamilton, that gentleman insisted upon it, in contradiction to him, that *Lower Sandusky* & the River au Glaize, were one and the same place.

I do not apprehend that Mr. Hammond has seen Mr. Knox's message, & the alteration it contains of the place of meeting, as it was brought here very lately by Joseph Brant. I inclose to Your Excellency, a copy of Mr. Hamilton's request to Mr. Hammond partly to supply the Indian Nations, during their expected meeting, with Provisions, at the Expense of the United States from this government.

The Reasons, which induced Mr. Hammond to intimate, that It was his Opinion such a proposal would meet with my Concurrence, were certainly in themselves of sufficient magnitude to lead him to that belief. I had expressed my inclination to the proposed meeting at Sandusky on account of its Expence, *unless it should be productive of Peace* an Expense that I thought inevitable. It is also apparent that such aid & Encouragement to the proposals of Mr. Hamilton would obviously give weight to our assertions, that we sincerely wish for the Establishment of Peace, but Sir, these considerations appear of no moment; when upon such a Permission the opinion & affections of the Indian Nations might be hazarded, & His Majesty's Influence totally annihilated.

Upon this view of Mr. Hamiltons Requisition, having consulted with those who could give me the best Information, I have informed

Mr. Hammond that I could not by any means comply with the measure that had been proposed to him — there are many other Points on which I stated this request as inadmissible, which neither of themselves require Illustration, nor does the present opportunity afford me proper means to convey to Your Excellency.

You will see by my Speech to the Western Indians as well as the answer I return to the Six Nations, that the agents, Colonels McKee & Butler are to be present at the ensuing Council, & that had the United States concurred in the Invitation, I probably, (in fact Mr Hammond) would have been permitted by the King to have attended the Council. Mr. Jefferson has been informed that I could not pass over in silence the solemn application of the Indian Nations, & that their Agents, would naturally as they have requested, attend at the meeting; This Gentleman's answer, to this *informal* Conversation of Mr. Hammond's was, that he conceived "such a "desire in the Indians to be extremely proper, & that the proposi- "tions of the Americans would be so Equitable, as to make him "regardless of the channels through which they are conveyed." Notwithstanding this Language I cannot but give it as my opinion, that the States will not offer any thing like equitable conditions, & tho' the Indians should give up all the Country to the Westward of the Ohio that is *under settlement* still the avarice of Mr. Washington will insist upon the full Execution of Treaties which the Indians reject, as fraudulent & inadmissible.

I have thus Sir, endeavoured to furnish you with such a Summary of affairs in this Country, as I think necessary for your immediate Information—but it may be necessary to add that in my Communications with Mr. Hammond I have endeavoured to impress upon him by Extracts from Sir William Johnson's opinions, that our giving Provisions & Necessaries to Indians, as Possessors of the Posts, is the result of ancient & undeviating system, not directed by temporary motives, & that the Military orders of these Posts, are to give them on whatsoever account they are assembled, such supplies as may be required.

I shall take the earliest opportunity when the Lakes open to transmit to you by the first eligible mode of Intercourse with all my Communications, & which will be more perfect if it shall be possible for me to get to *Detroit* this winter, which I mean to attempt over land in a few days.

As I have at present no opportunity of communicating to His Majesty's Ministers my not concurring with Mr. Hamilton's request,

of which request, Mr. Hammond has informed Lord Grenville I shall be much obliged to Your Excellency to take such notice of my declining the proposal, in your earliest dispatch, as you shall think proper.

I have the honor to be with the utmost respect & esteem
Your Excellency's
most faithful & obedt Servant
J. G. SIMCOE.

His Excellency Lt. Govr. Clarke.

Endorsed: No. 1.
In Genl. Clarke to Mr. Dundas. (No. 67.)

[Q 62, p 144]

COL. A. MC KEE TO LIEUT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE.

DETROIT January 30th 1793.

SIR,

Having communicated to Your Excellency all the information which had come to my knowledge respecting Indian Affairs, prior to Captain Caldwell's departure form hence, I have only to observe at present that the Indians have in general remained quiet, having been stopp'd by their chiefs from going to War, being in daily hopes of hearing the answer to the messages they sent to America, by the Senecas, last fall.

A Messenger from some of the Posts on the Ohio or Post Vincent found means by the way of the Wabash to get to the Miamis and delivered a message on the subject of Peace; by the inclosed Extract of a Letter received from the Glaize your Excellency will observe the very proper answer which the Indians returned.

Some Indians, who have come in from hunting report, and from the credit due to their characters, it is generally believed, that the Senecas killed two Delawares near Fort Washington, and one or two more of the same nation were also killed on one of the Branches of the Muskingum, which the Senecas are also blamed for particularly as a painted Tomahock was left sticking in the Breast of the dead man. These circumstances ill agree with the friendly disposition which seemed to exist when that nation took their leave of the nations here last October; It is however possible these untoward matters may have happened through the inconsiderate rashness or the intemperance of some of the young men without

having had any countenance, or authority from their chiefs for so doing.

I have the honor to be with the greatest respect
Your Excellency's
faithful & very obedient
humble Servant
A. McKee.

His Excellency Governor Simcoe.

Endorsed: No. 2.
In General Clarke's to Mr. Dundas. No. 70.

[Q 62, p 174]

LIEUT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE TO GEORGE HAMMOND.

Navy Hall, Niagara, Feby 3rd 1793.

Dr. Sir,

General Hull has just delivered to me your Excellency's Credentials. Having in my Letters of the 23rd of January fully expressed to you my Ideas; and that I conceived it to be improper for me to admit the request of the United States to furnish the Indians with Provisions, I can only add that I have endeavcured to press upon the General that my declining the request is consequent to the military orders subsisting at this post, and in particular as upon a similar construction to that which I now place upon those orders Colonel Gordon, my predecessor, refused the request of Colonel Proctor in 1791 to proceed with some Indian Chiefs in one of the King's Vessels to Sandusky for the purpose of negotiation,—which proceedings of Colonel Gordon's met with the entire approbation of Lord Dorchester.

Colonel Proctor's request was "to be permitted to charter a freight "in one of our vessels for such number of Indians as may accompany "me to Sandusky"—on Colonel Gordon's refusal the answer of Lord Dorchester is June 2nd 1791 "the application of Mr. Proctor for "the hire of one of the King's vessels on Lake Erie, has to me an "appearance of insult, 'tis impossible he could expect success. I take "it for granted you have taken effectual means also to prevent his "procuring any vessel or conveyance whatever from any of the King's "subjects which Mr. Butler mentions to have been his intention" I read the substance of the transaction to General Hull to evince to

him that I did not *personally* throw any obstacles in the way of his mission but that I follow'd Instructions which I could not misinterpret as they had already been acted upon.

At the General's request I have given to him a copy of the message of the Western Indians to me, and that of the Six Nations with my answers. He intimated to me in conversation, that he had understood the message must have been misinterpreted to the President as far as it related to the place of meeting which the President understood to be at the *Glaize;* and General Chapin the Superintendant whom he met with on the road, had informed him was at Sandusky. Upon our recurrence to the above mentioned Speeches He was confirmed that General Chapin was right in his assertion.

I declined of course placing my refusal of the request upon any other Basis than my obedience to the Military Orders of the Post, and whenever in conversation any observations called for animadversion, I took care constantly to observe, that what I then said was matter of discourse, and that my subordinate situation prevented me from entering into any discussion of what was not committed to my discretion. I also mentioned to him in strong terms the obligation which had been imposed on our Posts of always supplying the Indians; that this had originated from Sir William Johnson's recommendation, on the principle that we held those Fortresses by their permission, and that as I conceived that principle had been universally followed ever since, it would have a strange appearance, should we now deny the assistance so solemnly required for the Indians, at the very moment that they had agreed to assemble for the purposes of Pacification. I also added, that prior to Your Excellency's intimation of the request of the United States, I had by message promised to comply with their Requisition for provisions.

The General seems struck with that part of my speech where I intimated that I have no doubt had the United States concurred with the Indians in the request of my presence the King would have permitted my compliance; and asked me whether in that case I had *such authority,* I told him that I did not doubt but that you and General Clarke might take upon you such authority, that not I but you in this case would have been the Proper person to have attended. Tho' I mentioned my having, prior to the Intimation of Mr. Hamilton's request to Your Excellency, promised Provisions to the Western Indians, I assured Mr. Hull, that that circumstance

was of little weight, as had it been otherwise I could not have admitted the request.

As I am at this moment on my departure to visit the interior part of the Country and propose if possible to reach Detroit that I may not be obliged to do so in the Spring, I have desired General Hull to give to Your Excellency the copies of my Speeches to the Western Indians & Six Nations.

I have the honor to be
With great regard,
Dear Sir
Your Excellency's
most obedient and
very humble Servant

J. Graves Simcoe.

His Excellency George Hammond, &c. &c. &c.

Endorsed: No. 1.
In General Clarke's to Mr. Dundas. No. 70.

[Q 62, p 170]

LIEUT. GOV. ALURED CLARKE TO HENRY DUNDAS.

[No. 67.] Quebec 2nd March 1793.

Sir,

I have the honor to transmit copy of a Letter and sundry Inclosures received the 23rd Instant from Colonel Simcoe, and in compliance with his desire take the earliest opportunity to acquaint you of his having refused to comply with the Request of the Government of the United States to be permitted to send an Agent into Upper Canada for the purpose of collecting and furnishing provisions by the way of the Lakes during the proposed Treaty with the Indians.

I agree with Colonel Simcoe in the impolicy of suffering a measure of the kind proposed to take place, and am fully of opinion with him that it would risque the good opinion of the Indians if not entirely annihilate the King's influence among them. At the same time I am not by any means free from suspicion that it was not in contemplation with the States that this should be the Channel of obtaining supplies for their Military Establishments in that Country; nor will it I trust be construed a want of charity to sup-

pose that the change of the place of meeting has not arisen from mistake, but premeditated design.

Mr. Hammond, in giving encouragement to Mr. Hamilton that arrangements might be made for procuring a supply of provisions in that quarter, was actuated by the best motives, the saving the public money; but on the receipt of Colonel Simcoe's letter I doubt not he will be convinced of the propriety of rejecting Mr. Hamilton's proposals, and which I trust will meet with your approbation.

I have the honor to be
With great respect, Sir,
Your most obedient
and most faithful
humble servant
ALURED CLARKE.

The Rt. Hon. Henry Dundas.

Endorsed: Quebec 2d March 1793.
Lt. Govr. Clarke's No. 67,
R. 4 June 1793. Seven Enclosures.

[Q 62, p 142]

DECLARATION OF CAPT. M. ELLIOT.

DETROIT 5th March 1793.

Capt. Mathew Elliott declares and if required will make oath, that whilst he was at Pittsburg in the month of July 1775 Mr John Gibson who had a little time before arrived there from Williamsburg in Virginia proposed to him to be employed in raising Indians to send to the American Camps in order to act against the British Army; at the same time the said John Gibson informed him he had got a Commission for so doing either from the Committee at Williamsburg or the Assembly of Virginia, but the said Elliot, does not recollect which he further declares, that he refused so to be employed, being then on his way to Detroit to avail himself of the protection of the British Government. This conversation happened about the time that Lord Dunmore was obliged to take protection on board one of his Majesty's Ships of War.

M. ELLIOT.

Endorsed:
In Lt. Governor Simcoe's No. 26, of the 3d July 1794. (3)

[Q 280-1, p 230]

LIEUT. GOV. ALURED CLARKE TO HENRY DUNDAS.

[No. 70.] QUEBEC 30th March 1793.

SIR,

In mine (No 67) of the 2nd Instant I had the honor to transmit communications received from Colonel Simcoe respecting the request made by the United States to be permitted to collect and furnish provisions by the way of the Lakes during the proposed Treaty with the Indians.

The inclosed (No 1) copy of a Letter* of the 3rd February from Colonel Simcoe to Mr. Hammond, and which I have just received, will inform you, that there has since arrived at Niagara a General Hull in the service of the United States, charged with the commission for procuring the supplies before mentioned; The manner in which Colonel Simcoe has treated the subject of this mission appears to be highly proper.

The Inclosures (No 2 & 3) contain the latest communications received relative to Indian Affairs.

I have the honor to be with great respect, Sir,
Your most obedient and most faithful humble Servant
ALURED CLARKE.

The Right Honble. Henry Dundas.

Endorsed: Quebec 30th March 1793.
Lt. Govr. Clarke.
R. 4 June. (Three Enclosures.) No. 70.

[Q 62, p 169]

ESTIMATE OF SUNDRY WORKS ON THE BARRACKS AT DETROIT, ORDERED BY LT. COL. R. ENGLAND.

QUEBEC 30th March 1793.

Estimate of Expence of sundry works and necessary repairs to the officers & soldiers Barracks in the Garrison of Detroit ordered by Lieut Col. England commanding that Post, renewing two Platforms, making fourteen new Ladders and in various repairs to the Picketting, officers Quarters soldiers Barracks &c.

Carpenters	35—14—6½
Masons	2—18—9
Labourers	5—10—0
	£44—3—3½

* Published on page 529.

Materials

one hundred forty-five In Boards
one hundred and six lbs Nails
Three Thousand Shingles
Five thousand five hundred Shingle Nails
Fifty four Bushels Lime
Three thousand five hundred Bricks
one thousand & ten pine plank
Eighteen pair Hinges
Forty panes glass
Four lbs Putty
Five Locks
Five hundred forty feet Oak Scantg.
Forty pieces Ash Quartg.
Three Do 6 by 8 In 24 ft long each
Four hundred ninety Six Feet sq oak 9 by 10
Fifty 3 In Oak Plank
Six hundred Eighty feet pine Scantg.
Five hundred 6 in Spikes

Amounting to forty four Pounds—Three shillings & three pence ½ currency.

BENJN. FISHER
Capt. Commg. Rl. Engrs.

Approved,
ALURED CLARKE.
By the Major General's Command,
FRANS LEMAISTRE, M. S.

Endorsed: No. 8.
Estimate of Repairs Wanting to Officers & Soldiers Barracks at Detroit, 30 March 1793.
Amount of Materials, £36—11—9.
In Lt. Govr. Clarke's No. 95, of the 25th Octobr. 1793.

[Q 66, p 116]

BENJ. FISHER TO MAJOR GENERAL A. CLARKE.

QUEBEC 3rd May 1793.

The very ruinous and defenceless state of almost all the Posts in this Country is I believe but too well known to Your Excellency, however in obedience to your commands & feeling it a duty particularly incumbent on me at this time to turn my thoughts to

those objects, I beg leave to submit the following report to your consideration.

The works of the Frontier Posts, St Johns and Isle aux Noix (in the Lower Province) have been so long neglected & are now so completely gone to decay, that nothing short of an entire reestablishment on some new system, can I apprehend answer any purpose, the same remark is equally applicable to Michilimakinac, Fort Erie, and Oswego in the Upper Province. With respect to Detroit & Niagara some attention has from time to time been paid to the Defences in those places, but from the kind of soil & the perishable nature of the materials with which the works have been constructed much will no doubt be wanting to render them in the least respectable.

But in the reports of 25 July, 4 Septr & 26 December 1792, which I had the honor to make to you on the subject of all the Posts, in the two Provinces. I so fully detailed the condition of the works and buildings in each, and at the same time submitted to your consideration what appeared to me most essentially necessary to be done, with Estimates of the probable expense, that perhaps it may not be thought necessary to dwell any further on the subject at present, only remarking that it is reasonable to suppose that everything is now in a degree worse than at the periods above mentioned.

I have the Honor to be with
the greatest Respect
Your Excellency's
most obedt Huml. Servant
BENJN. FISHER.

His Excellency Major General Clarke,
Commanding His Majesty's Forces British America.

Endorsed: Quebec 3d May 1793.
Commanding Engineer's Report.
In Major Genl. Clarke's to Mr. Dundas, No. 95, of the 25 Oct. 1793.

[Q 66, p 166]

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS OF JOHN CRAIGIE, COMMISSARY GENERAL.

To James Farquharson Esqr. Asst. Commy. General at Niagara.

QUEBEC 6th May 1793.

SIR,

A certificate has been presented to me signed by you, and approved by Major Smith, dated the 19th April, for five hundred Barrels of Flour delivered into store by Messrs. Forsyth & Co. on account of government.

As my letters to you have signified that you were to follow the Instructions of His Excellency Colonel Simcoe in regard to the receival of Flour, I should have expected that the certificate should have specified, the terms and conditions of receival which were to be determined by His Excellency, who by His letter of the 14th of the same month does not apprize me of any engagements entered into in that regard (excepting some small quantities from the Government Mills) previous to the receipt of my letter of the 14th March, advising the new mode established by the Treasury for furnishing Provisions.

The certificate must therefore remain unsettled, untill you transmit to me His Excellency Colonel Simcoe's sanction for the receival of the Flour, and the terms thereof.

I am Sir &c

JOHN CRAIGIE
Commy. General.

To Mr. Thomas Reynolds
Assist. Commissary at Detroit.

QUEBEC 27th May 1793.

SIR,

A certificate has been presented me signed by you, and approved by Lieut Col. England, dated the 2nd Instant, for 12,246 pounds of Flour, delivered into store by Sundry Inhabitants on account of government.

As my letters to you have signified that you were to follow the instructions of His Excelly. Colonel Simcoe in regard to the receival of Flour, I should have expected that the Certificate should have specified the terms and conditions of receival, which were to be determined by His Excellency, who by his letter of the 14th April

last, does not apprize me of any engagements entered into in that regard, previous to the receipt of my letter of the 14th March advising the new mode established by the Treasury for furnishing provisions.

The Certificate must therefore remain unsettled, untill you transmit to me His Excellency Colonel Simcoe's sanction for the receival of the Flour, and the terms thereof.

I am Sir &c.

JOHN CRAIGIE
Commy. General.

To His Excellency
Major General Clarke
&ca. &ca. &ca.

QUEBEC 19th July 1793.

SIR,

On the subject of Brigade Major Littlehale's letter of the 4th instant to Captain Le Maistre, and the inclosure from Mr. Farquharson dated the 28th June, referred to me by Your Excellency I beg leave to state that Mr. Farquharson was, by general Instructions required to transmit information to me in regard to the quantities of Flour and Pease that could be depended upon from the settlements near Niagara, but that no directions whatever were given to him by me for the receival of any Flour or Pease beyond the supplies to the 1st October 1793, which has been already compleated, as stated by him in his December returns.

In January last, being the season, when the orders for the receival of Flour had been usually sent the Commissaries at Kingston, Niagara and Detroit were informed that "Instructions would be handed to "them from His Excellency Colonel Simcoe in regard to the receival "of Flour for the next supplies." By my letter of the 14th March, copy of which is subjoined, I informed His Excellency Colonel Simcoe, of the new mode adopted for the supplies of provisions. Distributions were also sent to the several Commissaries to the same effect. On the 6th May, a certificate having been presented to me signed by Mr. Farquharson and approved by Major Smith, dated the 19th April, for five hundred Barrels of Flour delivered into store by Messrs. Forsyth & Co. I wrote to Mr. Farquharson as pr. copy subjoined, which has produced his letter to Colonel Simcoe of the 28th June.

From these circumstances, I am clearly of opinion that Government cannot be called upon to pay more than the actual current market price for any Flour received at Niagara, this year, unless His Excellency Colonel Simcoe should have authorized the receival and sanctioned the terms, but that, nevertheless, if His Excellency Colonel Simcoe, should think proper, or see any grounds upon which Mr. Commissary Farquharson's engagements ought to be kept. The Flour and Pease so engaged may be taken at the real market price, as deliveries under Mr. Davison's agency, and to which I am warranted to say, there will be no objection on his part.

I have the honor to be

&c. &c. &c.

JOHN CRAIGIE
Commy. General.

To His Excellency
Major General Clarke
&c. &c. &c.

QUEBEC 22d August 1793.

SIR,

Your Excellency having in October last desired Colonel Simcoe Commanding in Upper Canada to adopt such measures as might be expedient for obtaining and providing the quantities of Flour required for His Majesty's Forces at the several Posts in that Province, as usual, from the growth and produce of the adjoining settlements for the encouragement of the settlers.

The quantities specified in the annexed account had been received and engaged for under His Excellency Colonel Simcoe's sanction, previous to the receipt of any advice that could be given of the new mode directed by the Right Honorable The Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury, for furnishing the Forces in Canada with provisions.

The Faith of Government being thus pledged for the receival of the said Flour, at the terms agreed on, I beg leave to submit, as the manner in which I conceive this business may be settled so as to interfere in the least degree with the mode established by the Board of Treasury, that Your Excellency will approve of my calling upon Messrs. Munro & Bell acting for Mr. A. Davison, the agent

appointed by the Right Honorable Board, to consider the Flour so provided, as deliveries under Mr. Davison's agency, and to pay for the same, at the prices agreed on.

I have the honor to be &c. &c.

JOHN CRAIGIE
Commy General.

Approved, and the Flour so received vizt, Three hundred sixty three Thousand six hundred and one pounds, to be settled for in the mode recommended. ALURED CLARKE.

[Q 281–1, p 57]

LIEUT. GOV. ALURED CLARKE TO HENRY DUNDAS.

QUEBEC 25th May 1793.

SIR,

For the conveniency of military command Upper and Lower Canada are considered as divided into four Districts; the first, Quebec, extends to Three Rivers; the second is the District of Montreal including William Henry & Chambly, and extending up the St Lawrence as far as Coteau du Lac; the third, Kingston and its dependencies (Carleton Island and Oswegatchie) and the fourth commonly distinguished by the Upper Posts and which comprehend those of Oswego on Fort Ontario, Niagara, Detroit & Michilimackinac, and except at Quebec, the officer eldest in rank who happens to be in either, in his tour of duty, has hitherto been the commandant of the respective districts, in which the corps to which he belongs happens to be quartered, and he is considered immediately responsible for the proper execution of all military arrangements therein, to whom all Returns and Reports are made and thro' him communicated to Head Quarters;

I have &c

ALURED CLARKE.

The Right Honble Henry Dundas.

Endorsed: Quebec 25th May 1793.
Lt. Govr. Clarke, No. 72.
R. 15th July.

[Q 62, p 199]

COL. J. G. SIMCOE TO MAJ. GEN. A. CLARKE.

Extract of a Letter from Colonel Simcoe to Major General Clarke, dated Navy Hall, May 31st 1793

"I have received the honor of your Letter from Captain Le Maistre of the 25th of April, informing me of the Declaration of War made by the Persons exercising the Supreme Power in France, against His Majesty."

"I beg leave to return Your Excellency my most respectful thanks for the confidence you are pleased to repose in my Zeal & Abilities, to adopt every measure that may be condusive to the safety of the King's Posts in Upper Canada, and that may be necessary to secure them from insult."

"It is with satisfaction that I am enabled at this critical period to submit to Your Excellency these opinions upon the actual situation of the Country & its principal Fortresses which I have now formed from personal observation. During the course of the winter I walked from the Grand River by the route of La Tranche (or Thames) to Detroit; and I fully substantiated the great consequence of this internal communication between the countries which border on the Lakes Ontario & St Clair. And for every purpose of civilization, command of the Indians, & General Defence, I am decidedly of Opinion, that on the confluence of the main Branches of the Thames the capital of Upper Canada, as soon as possible ought to be situated. But, as under the existing circumstances of this Country I must follow those events to which I cannot give direction, and reconciles to myself the want of sufficient power by the best Application of that which I possess; it is not my intention at present to establish myself upon the Forks of the River Thames, and, making all my views of the Civil Administration of the Province secondary to its military preservation I shall content myself with rendering the Road between Burlington Bay & the River Thames (where it first becomes navigable for Batteaux) sufficiently commodious as a military communication, if such shall be the necessity, between Detroit and Niagara. I hesitate not a moment in stating to Your Excellency, that, circumstanced as Detroit is, with all the assistance which possibly can be procured from the Inhabitants of the Vicinity, it is not tenable against Assault if attacked by 3000 men with a due proportion of Field Pieces."

"I have in a former letter expressed to Your Excellency my Ideas relative to the government of the United States equipping a naval force at Presque Isle; and I have obtained from Your Excellency such Instructions as I presumed you will think proper to give me on this head, But under the present state of affairs both with respect to Europe and America I must beg Your Excellency's precise Orders should the following events unhappily take place. 'I request Instruction what must be the conduct of the Commanders of the King's Garrisons of Niagara, Oswego, or Detroit, in case any of the vessels of the United States shall attempt to pass up the River by & within the reach of the cannon of these Forts.' The inclosed extracts from the newspapers will inform Your Excellency that Presqu' Isle is immediately to be settled by the State of Pennsylvania and Provision is made for its becoming an Arsenal, Dockyard & Fortification whenever such shall be required by the United States."

"The Commissioners now at this place, Colonel Pickering & Mr. Randolph, intimated in conversation their expectation of having a fleet upon that Lake. The language in which General Wayne is addressed avowedly states a disbelief of Peace being permanently effected between the United States & the American Indians. Nor does that General in his answer appear to wish it. The Persons best informed of the Intentions of the Indians believe they will not recede from their claim of the Ohio as their Boundary, except in some trivial instances; and I cannot but suspect that the United States will recede in *no Point* in what they call their territorial Purchases, but will offer presents to the Indians as a Commutation for the Lands which they have demanded to be restored to them. Under this view of circumstances I am anxious to possess myself of some Post opposite to Presqu' Isle, a station that I have always thought necessary as a military arsenal for Lake Erie, should I find it possible to effect it to any good purpose with a divided force this Autumn. Niagara with such additions as may be made to it in a short period, is capable of making a tolerable defence.

But at the same time the United States could center a very considerable Force for its attack; and if they obtain a temporary command of the Harbour by a Land Force on the opposite shore, or by Vessels & Boats, it is not tenable even against assault. It has hitherto been the opinion of the ablest officers of the States, that the capture of Niagara would of course cut off all supplies from Detroit and Michilimackinac. The proposed communication with the

River Thames will in a considerable degree invalidate this opinion. And to further this essential purpose, I hold out every encouragement in my power for the speedy settling the interjacent country; as on the other hand I think it proper to discourage any Settlements on the Eastern Lands of Lake Erie. But as it cannot fail to strike your Excellency both in a civil & Military Light that the safety of this province should not depend upon so feeble a Barrier as (comparatively) the contemptible fortress of Niagara, it is with great pleasure that I offer to you some Observation upon the military strength and naval conveniency of Toronto (now York) which I propose immediately to occupy.

"I have not yet had time to explore the coasts of Lake Erie between Long Point and the Grand River (now the Ouze). But somewhere in that neighborhood I doubt not but to find a proper place to secure the shipping of Lake Erie during the winter Season. In regard to Detroit, your Excellency is perfectly acquainted that there is at present no security for the shipping at that Post from any attempt that may be made against them. And I must confess that it will not be without anxiety that I shall consider their situation, and what may be left at Kingston during the course of next winter, however the present disputes between the Indians and the United States may terminate."

In regard to Lake Huron tho' it is not so immediate an object of attention, yet I consider it ultimately of the most extensive and serious magnitude. Altho' Captain Mann in the diligent inquiries that he submitted to Lord Dorchester relative to the Lakes inclines to consider Matchedash Bay and its environs as universally shallow; I shall endeavour by a minute scrutiny to find out some situation near those shores that may be proper for a naval station, & from the Reports which have been made to me of late I am not without hopes of success."

"It appears to me that, taking into consideration the State of the Country, the quickest & cheapest mode of Defense and that which would be of the most permanent utility, would be to erect Blockhouses, or Redoubts of Stone, two stories in height; (the lower one to be

made Bomb proof) and of sufficient Capacity to contain a hundred Men and Magazines; that those Redoubts should have the total command with their musketry or small cannon of such outworks as might be constructed around them, and which might become necessary for Batteries, Storehouses, or other military Defences. In the District of Detroit I should propose one of these Blockhouses to be made on the Isle Bois Blanc, another at Maisonville's Island; the former to command the passage from Lake Erie, the latter to preserve the communication with the River La Franche, and each to serve as shelter to our Shipping. Should the Garrison at the *Detroit* be withdrawn, it should be placed at Chatham, near which should be the naval winter station of the Gallies or Gun Boats & occasionally of the larger Vessels."

"Some such species of Fortification may be proper at the Station I have intimated that I am desirous of obtaining at Lake Erie. And I should not hesitate, were the Garrison of Niagara to be evacuated, to recommend no greater species of Fortification opposite that Fortress, should any works (which I doubt) be thought proper.

"Considering therefore all the Garrisons & Fortifications of Detroit, Niagara & Oswego, as totally inadequate to self-Defence or general Protection, and that they are especially retained as Hostages for the performances of an incomplete Treaty, rather than from any idea of maintaining dominion over them; that they are the anxious object of jealousy of the Government of the United States—a Government founded upon the Basis of popular Opinion and floating with its very Breath! and considering, that this popular opinion is guided by the same men & by the same means (Newspapers) which alienated their minds, and severed them from the parent Country; I cannot but be seriously alarmed at the approach of an armed force to subject the Indians, whom the voice of popular opinion in the States declares only to exist as a People from the support they receive from those Fortresses which Virginia (powerful, revengeful, unprincipled) has already declared to be retained in the violation of the Treaty of Peace fulfilled on the part of the United States. Victory establishes their arms at the Miamis & Sandusky—or some Post (if the officer commanding their Forces be intelligent and not governed by names) still, nearer to Detroit. Defeated, Presq' Isle, within a few hours sail of Fort Erie, will be occupied in force.

And when I am to add to this prospect of affairs an European War, in which the United States have declared a Neutrality, with the express Proviso of determining what *they* will admit to be contraband by *modern usages*, in which very term (officially used) they have acceded to the Principles of the armed neutrality, which Great Britain in her late important struggle refused to admit, and which she has conceded to France only under commercial stipulations; and in consequence that every Court of British Judicature, if applied to such individuals as shall have a mercantile Interest in the condemnation of Prizes must decide the cause upon principles contrary to *modern usages*; and above all when it is apparent that both the antifederal Party of the United States, who powerful in numbers, and active from the Want of all Restraint of Morality, are the avowed Partizans of France, and those men also who are desirous of supporting Mr. Washington and the federal Government, *however characterized*, are necessarily united in the apprehension of the loss of Power and democratic command, should the innovators of France prove unsuccessful & the United States remain a solitary experiment of what may prove an impracticable system."

Endorsed:
In General Clarke's to Mr. Dundas. No. 88.

[Q 65, p 253]

SUGGESTIONS GIVEN TO GOV. J. G. SIMCOE BY THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE UNITED STATES.

The Commissioners of the United States for making Peace with the Western Indians beg leave to suggest to Governor Simcoe.

That the very high importance of the negotiation committed to their management makes them desirous of using every proper means that may contribute to its success.

That they have observed with pleasure the disposition manifested by the Governor to afford every requisite assistance in the preparatory arrangements for holding the treaty with the hostile Indians.

But all the facilities thus afforded, and all the expenses incurred by the British Government on this occasion will perhaps be fruitless, unless some means are used to counteract the effect of deep-rooted prejudices and unfounded reports among the Indian Tribes; for the Arts of a few bad men, dwelling among them, or having a familiar intercourse with them, by cherishing those prejudices, or raising or spreading those reports, may be sufficient to defeat every attempt to accomplish a peace. As an instance of such unfounded reports, the Commissioners have noticed the declaration of a Mohawk from Grand River—"that Governor Simcoe advised the Indians to make Peace; "but not to give up any of their lands."

The Commissioners further observe, that any transactions at former treaties were exceptionable, the principles of the present treaty are calculated to remove the causes of complaint; for the views of government are perfectly fair, and altho' it is impossible now to retrace all the steps then taken, the United States are disposed to recede as far as shall be indispensible and the existing state of things will admit—and for the lands retained to make ample compensation.

The views of the United States being thus fair and liberal, the Commissioners wish to embrace every means of making them so appear to the Indians, against any contrary suggestions. Among these means the Commissioners consider the presence of some Gentlemen in the Army to be of consequence. For altho' the Indians naturally look up to their Superintendants as their Patrons, yet the presence of some officers of the Army will probably induce them to negotiate with greater confidence on the terms of Peace. Independently of these considerations, the Commissioners for their own sakes, request the pleasure of their company.

The Commissioners feeling the greatest solicitude to accomplish the object of their mission will be happy to receive from the Governor every information relating to it, which his situation enables him to communicate. He must be aware that the sales and settlements of the lands over the Ohio founded on the Treaties of Fort McIntosh, and Fort Harmar, render it impossible now to make that River the boundary—The expression of his opinion on this point in particular will give them great satisfaction.

Navy Hall, June 7th 1793.

REPLY OF COL. J. G. SIMCOE TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE UNITED STATES.

NAVY HALL June 7th 1793.

Colonel Simcoe commanding the King's Forces in Upper Canada has the honor in answer to the paper delivered to him this morning by the Commissioners of the United States for making Peace with the Western Indians to state to those gentlemen that, He is duly impressed with the serious importance of the negotiation committed to their charge, and shall be happy to contribute by every means that may tend to its success. He is much obliged to them for the polite manner in which they have expressed their sense of his readiness to afford them such facilities as may have been in his power, to assist in the preparatory arrangement for holding the Treaty. He is perfectly aware that unfounded Reports, and deep-rooted prejudices have arisen amongst the Indian Tribes; but whether from the Arts of a few bad men living among them, he cannot pretend to say; but he must observe upon the Instance given by the Commissioners of one of these unfounded Reports—"that a "Mohawk from Grand River should say that Governor Simcoe "advised the Indians to make Peace, but not to give up their "Lands,"—is of that nature, that cannot be true, the Indians not having as yet applied for his advice on the subject;—and it being a point of all others on which they are the least likely to consult a British officer—commanding in Upper Canada.

Colonel Simcoe considers himself perfectly justified in admitting on the requisitions of the Commissioners Some officers to attend the Treaty and therefore in addition to Gentlemen appointed to control the delivery of the British provisions &c. &c. He will desire Captain Bunbury of the 5th Regiment, and Lieutenant Givens who has some knowledge of one of the Indian Language to accompany the Commissioners.

Colonel Simcoe can give the Commissioners no further information than what is afforded by the speeches of the Confederate Nations, of which General Hull had authentic copies. But as it has been ever since the Conquest of Canada, the principles of the British government to united the American Indians, that all petty jealousies being extinguished the real wishes of the several Tribes may be fully expressed; and in consequence, all Treaties with them may have the most compleat ratification, and universal concurrence, so he feels it proper to state to the Commissioners that a Jealousy of a contrary conduct in the agents of the United States appear to

him to have been deeply impressed upon the minds of the Confederacy.

To the Commissioners of the United States for making Peace with the Western Indians, &c. &c. &c.

Endorsed:
In Genl. Clarke's to Mr. Dundas. No. 88.

[Q 65, p 280]

COL. J. G. SIMCOE TO MAJOR GENERAL A. CLARKE.

Sir, Navy Hall June 9th 1793.

I take this opportunity of forwarding to Your Excellency a Paper delivered to me by the Commissioners of the United States to the Indians, and my answer to it.

I must promise to Your Excellency that in all my communications with these Gentlemen, I have strictly confined myself to my military and subordinate capacity, as commanding the King's Troops in this Province, and that on the requisition of the Commissioners for the conference during which they delivered in the enclosed Paper, I requested the attendance of Major Smith and Captain Bunbury of the 5th Regiment & Major of Brigade Littlehales.

I have taken occasion to mention to the Commissioners, what Your Excellency was pleased to approve of in my intercourse with General Hull, that I totally considered my opinions to be informal (unless expressly requested) and as meer matter of general & confidential conversation; But that I was at all times ready to give the most explicit answers that my situation admitted of to any such question that they might think necessary or do me the honor to ask my opinion upon.

I have the honor to be Sir, Your Excellency's most obedient and very humble Servant

His Excellency Major General Clarke, Commander in Chief, &c. &c. &c.

J. G. Simcoe.

Endorsed:
In General Clarke's to Mr. Dundas. No. 88.

[Q 65, p 276]

COL. J. G. SIMCOE TO MAJOR GENERAL A. CLARKE.

Extract of a Letter from Colonel Simcoe to Major General Clarke, dated Navy Hall June 14th 1793.

"The Commissioners for making Peace with the United States have remained in this House ever since the 17th of May. They

are in expectation of hearing from Colonel McKee when the Indian Nations shall be assembled. All the public conversations that I have held with these Gentlemen, is detailed in the enclosed Papers, to which I am to add that upon my reading to them Lord Dorchester's Speech of the 15th August 1791 to the Deputies of the several Nations and the boundary Line then given to Your Excellency, they have desired copies thereof, particularly as it is stated these documents will be those on which I founded my answers to all the speeches that had hitherto passed between me & the Indian Americans. You will perceive, Sir, from the papers which we have exchanged that these Gentlemen have much of the low Craft which distinguishes and is held for wisdom by People who like the subjects of the United States naturally self-opinionated, have a very trifling share of Education—and indeed by what I hear, their whole behaviour has been of this cast, and tho' they have been repeatedly told by the Indians themselves, that all applications to individuals, or separate Tribes is improper in itself, suspicious, and which can be of no utility in affairs that must be transacted in a general Council; yet, I understand, they have been attempting to influence every Private Person they have held communication with, but with so little success, & the result has been so totally contradictory to their hopes, that some days ago they sent their Intrepreter to Philadelphia (as I have reason to believe) to state these particulars, and to require fresh Instructions; subsequently to which they desired an Interview with me, and delivered in the paper to which I have alluded; but I must add, that in this interval, O'Beal, the Corn Planter came to this *House*; I had a long interview with him & He expressed himself in the strongest terms attached to His Majesty, and by no means seemed inclined to quit on the present occasion, the Indian Confederacy to serve the Interests of the United States. He did not even call upon the Commissioners altho they had brought his son from Philadelphia with them—this seems to have given them much disturbance; as they sent after & followed him to the Chippewa, Mr. Randolph told me that if the previous meeting now holding at the Miamis should be conclusive and binding in the General Council to be held at the Sandusky that he should think it unnecessary [to proceed any farther. Since this conversation, the Commissioners have been to Buffaloe Creek, holding private Councils and doing] their utmost to seduce the Indians, but as it appears from the enclosed copies of speeches, in the opinion of Colonel Butler, with but little effect."

"Your Excellency will readily judge that it has been contrary to my inclination that such a tenor of conduct has been held by these Gentlemen, but I do not see how it was possible for me to prevent it; and I have reason to believe that it will produce a very contrary effect from what they wish or expect, by the whole of their proceedings, by their determination to give a compensation only, *for the whole of the Lands whether Settled or Unsettled* and of which the Indians in the most positive terms demand a restitution by the large sum of money, (said to be thirty thousand dollars) which they have brought with them. It appears to me, that there is little probability of effecting a Peace, and I am inclined to believe that the Commissioners do not expect it; that General Wayne does not expect it, and that the mission of the Commissioners is in general contemplated by the People of the United States, as necessary to adjust the ceremonial of the destruction and pre-determined extirpation of the Indian Americans. But Your Excellency will no doubt observe, from the general tenor of the conversation & conduct of the United States, that an alliance with the Six Nations, and turning them against the Western Indians, and untimately, Great Britain is their favorite object. It is therefore a fortunate circumstance in my Ideas, that should even the present treaty totally fail, as I suspect it will, that all the Indians have combined in the request, that Great Britain should furnish them with Provisions, and that the Superintendants, Captain Brandt, The Farmer's Brother, and O'Beal, the Corn Planter, have separately observed, and no doubt will dilate on the kindness of His Majesty's Government in this respect, and on the independant footing which by these means the Indian Nations can meet the Commissioners; and I hope this incident whatever may be the events of the Treaty will fully support His Majesty's Influence and conciliate the affections of the Indians so necessary to the safety of this Colony."

Endorsed:
In General Clarke's to Mr. Dundas. No. 88.

[Q 65, p 272]

LT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE TO HENRY DUNDAS, SEC'Y.

[No. 15.]

SIR, NAVY HALL, NIAGARA, UPPER CANADA, June 17th 1793.

I have been duly honored with your dispatch of the 7th of March, which I received yesterday enclosing a copy of a letter transmitted to Colonel Beckwith.

In outward appearance Sir, any attempts to force a War in this quarter will become more, or less probable, as the complection of affairs in Europe vary in favor of Great Britain, or against her interests; yet, I cannot hold but one uniform opinion of the views of Mr. Washington, and the paper alluded to tho' exaggerated as to the Force actually in existence, is to me a confirmation of the popular opinion, and the aims of the Leaders of the United States to support popular prejudices. In this case it will be extremely difficult so to manage as not to lose the affections of the Indians and yet not to give that pretext to the Government of the United States for the commencement of hostilities in this Country, which I am persuaded is in the contemplation of their Leaders (when circumstances shall be ripe) without any regard to European politics.

I am glad that Mr. Wayne has descended the Ohio to Fort Washington, as this province has more to fear from the vicinity of Fort Pitt.

I mean without delay to take post with the Queen's Rangers at Toronto (or York) and shall take an early opportunity of fully expressing my sentiments to you, sir, upon that subject.

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of Your Letter of the 8th of last December (duplicate) relative to the proceedings of the persons exercising the Supreme authority in France.

I take this opportunity of enclosing the Gazette of this Province, containing my speech to both Houses of the Legislature, upon opening the second Session on the 31st of May, together with their several answers &c.

The Commissioners of the United States for making peace, with the American Indians are still at Navy Hall, but from the general tenor of their conversation, I presume they merely wait the arrival of an Express from Philadelphia of which they are in momentary expectation and they will then proceed to the accomplishment of the object of their mission to Lower Sandusky.

I have the honor to be with the greatest respect, Sir

Your most obedient & very Humble Servant

J. Graves Simcoe.

The Right Honorable Henry Dundas,

One of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, &c. &c.

Endorsed: Niagara 17th June 1793.
In Lt. Govr. Simcoe. No. 15.
R. 14 August. One Inclosure.

[Q 279–1, p 232]

LIEUT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE TO THE WESTERN INDIANS.

NAVY HALL June 22nd 1793.

CHILDREN AND BROTHERS,

I have chearfully and readily to the utmost of my power complied with the request of Your General Council held at the Glaize the last autumn, and that of the Six Nations at Buffaloe Creek, who transmitted to me the wishes of the Indian Confederacy.

CHILDREN & BROTHERS,

In order to enable you to meet the United States in the ensuing Spring, you ask of me such assistance as I knew that you would stand in need of, particularly Provisions, "which your unsettled sit-"uation does not allow you to procure in your troubled country.

CHILDREN & BROTHERS,

I have in consequence given orders that you may be amply supplied with Provisions to enable you to prosecute so good a work, as the establishment of Peace in Your Country.

CHILDREN & BROTHERS,

My sentiments towards you are the same as have been expressed by Lord Dorchester who is the Great chief of all the King your Father's People in British America, and I repeat to you what he said to the Deputies of your Nations, two summers ago at Quebec "I leave the Command of this Country in the hands of Major "General Clarke, who will take the same care of you, that I have "done, for that is the will of the King our Master. His Benevo-"lence & friendship for you are always the same and whoever is the "instrument of the King's power in this Country: will always ful-"fil his intentions." You see therefore it is the duty of Major General Clarke and it is my duty to show the most cordial friend-ship & regard for the Indian Americans.

CHILDREN & BROTHERS,

I received your Belt to lead me to the Council Fire at San-dusky, I answered to you, "that had the people of the United "States concurred in the Invitation, I had but little doubt but the "benevolence of the King Your Father would have permitted me to "have gone into Your Country; But as the United States did not think proper to concur in the request, my presence at Sandusky could have answered no good purpose. But I have not been unmind-ful of Your Interest.

CHILDREN & BROTHERS,

You say, "We have a reliance on our Father seeing justice done "us—"He never deceives us and we have always found that we "may confidently depend upon him."

You desire "that all Papers, Maps, Records & Treaties relating to "the Indians may be brought to Sandusky" you say, "that not "being in a situation to keep or procure any writing that may "assert our just claims, we rely on your friendship to produce "those made at the Settlement of the Boundary between us and "the King our Father and his people at that time for how other-"wise can a just accommodation be accomplished?"

CHILDREN & BROTHERS,

You shew your wisdom, established on experience, when you say that your Father has never deceived you, and that you have always found that you may confidently depend upon him.

You may confidently depend upon the King Your Father; He never will deceive you; and so strongly is the love of Truth impressed by his Example and Orders on all who are the delegates of his Power in this Country, that the youngest of our chief warriors would be degraded from that character was he capable of deceit or Falsehood.

When at Quebec two summers ago you told Lord Dorchester, the Great Chief of all the King Your Father's people in this Country "there are people who say the King your Father when he made "Peace with the United States gave away your Land to them." What was his answer? He said I cannot think that the government of the United States would hold that Language, it must come from ill-informed Individuals.

CHILDREN & BROTHERS,

The truth of this answer of Lord Dorchester has been fully confirmed by Mr. Washington the President of the United States, and particularly by Colonel Pickering one of the present Commissioners who duly authorized by him formerly addressed the following words to the Five Nations. "We claim no Lands but what belong to the "Nations who sold to us; we claim not a foot of the Lands of "any Nations, with whom we have yet held no Treaties." You see therefore that what has been told you has been proved to be Just & true; The Documents Records & Treaties between the British Governors—in former times and your wise Forefathers, of which in

consequence of your request authentic copies are now transmitted to you, all establish the Freedom & Independency of Your Nations.

CHILDREN & BROTHERS,

These authentic Papers will prove that no King of Great Britain ever claimed absolute power or Sovereignty over any of your Lands or Territories that were not fairly sold or bestowed by Your ancestors at Public Treaties. They will prove that your natural Independency has ever been preserved by your Predecessors, and will establish that the Rights resulting from such Independency have been reciprocally and constantly acknowledged in the Treaties between the King's of France formerly possessors of parts of this Continent, and the Crown of Great Britain; and it will appear that when the War in this Continent arose between the French and Great Britain which terminated in the King Your Father's obtaining possession of Canada, that it commenced in consequence of the French nation invading the stipulations by which the Indian Americans were acknowledged to be Independent.

CHILDREN & BROTHERS,

I need not remind you that after the Peace of 1763 the King Your Father uniformly followed the Just conduct of his Predecessors to prevent all future encroachments. The Treaty of Fort Stanwix in 1768 was by his direction made with the several Indian Nations, by that wise and Good Man your late Superintendant General Sir William Johnson, at your request I transmit you the Boundary then agreed upon, as it was traced by his own hands.

You see therefore that no Interpretation of the Boundary Line settled between the King Your Father & the United States, can have the shadow of pretext to consider your Independency as injured, or that your Territories were bargained away as the price of peace.

CHILDREN & BROTHERS,

You have been told by Lord Dorchester "that the King's rights " with respect to Your Territory were against the Nations of Europe" these he resigned to the States.

The chief rights which the King Your Father resigned were, the power of establishing British Colonies beyond the Line of Separation agreed on in the Treaty, should your nations even be disposed to sell or bestow upon him Lands for that purpose. This Power by the Treaty he totally restricted himself from Exercising.

CHILDREN & BROTHERS,

I have directed your Superintendants as you desired to attend your Council, and to aid you in whatever matters you shall require their assistance.

CHILDREN & BROTHERS,

In order to facilitate the work of Peace between you & the United States, I have directed the officers of the King's Ships to assist their Commissioners in their passage to Sandusky and I have afforded them every convenience in my power to exemplify the true desire that I have to contribute to so desirable a purpose as the general Tranquility.

CHILDREN & BROTHERS,

I most heartily pray the Almighty being, the common Father of all Mankind, to give Wisdom & Union to your Councils, and I most fervently hope that Peace may be established on such just and permanent Foundations as may be for the common Interests and general Benefit of all the People on this Continent.

J. G. SIMCOE,
Lt. Govr. of Upper Canada.

Endorsed: 10.
In General Clarke's to Mr. Dundas. No. 88.

[Q 65, p 301]

LIEUT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE TO MAJOR JOHN BUTLER AND COL. A. MC KEE.

NAVY HALL June 22d 1793.

GENTLEMEN,

In compliance with the General wishes of the Indian American Nations, over whom, you have for so many years exercised the office of Deputy Superintendants, with so much zeal in the service of your King, and Country, and so much honor to yourselves, I hereby direct and authorize you, to attend at the meeting proposed to be held between these Nations, and the United States of North America at Lower Sandusky.

The Government of the United States to whom the desire of the Indian Americans has been communicated, that you should be present at the proposed meeting at Lower Sandusky, has acquiesed in the propriety of the Requisition; which acquiescence effectually protects you from the imputation of being Intruders, or of being actuated by any unfair or improper motives in giving your attendance.

My Speeches to the Indian Nations will have clearly explained to you, that you are not to consider yourselves in the Light of *Mediators* between the contending parties. The Duty of your Mission is solely in answer to the Request of the Indian Americans to explain to those Nations faithfully, the nature, and tendency of the offers of the United States, to illustrate the Treaties, Documents & Maps herewith transmitted, and to exert your ascendency over the Indians in inclining them to accede to those offers, if they be consistent with their safety, and benefit, or to reject them if they seem likely to prove injurious to their real Interests.

In the exercise of this great & important trust, I hope it is needless to recommend to you, the utmost caution, and circumspection; you must be aware, that you will be narrowly watched, and in proportion as the offers of the Commissioners of the United States may be unreasonable, or unavailing, they will be solicitous to discover anything in your Language or Conduct that may impress the People of the States with the belief that it is not the injustice of the Federal Government or the obstinacy of the American Indians but the Interposition of the British Agents which has prevented the Restoration of Peace.

I recommend therefore Gentlemen that your conduct be not only circumspect in general, that your advice be given as has been usual in your Department, privately to some of the Chieftans, or that your Disapprobation of it if it shall be *necessary* to have a general meeting be expressed rather by silence, if that may be effectual, than by words; but that you in general shelter yourselves from all Intercourse with the Commissioners of the United States by some ceremonious system, and I presume this may easily be done, after some general civilities, by declining any further meeting, on the reasonable grounds, that the Indians may be Jealous, and by entrusting any business that may happen to arise between you and the Commissioners to Lieut Selby, or Captain Bunbury, who at the request of those Gentlemen with Lieutenant Givens accompany them to the Council. But in thus wishing to guard you against any communications with the Commissioners that may lead to unnecessary discussions, or that may give any cause for that misrepresentation which I am persuaded it is fit you should avoid with the utmost caution, I am anxious that you shew to these Gentlemen every civility that may be in your power, and manifest upon all occasions, that kindness & urbanity, which it is with great pleasure, I have experienced to be natural to your Tempers & Inclinations.

But above all tho' I am not inclined to believe Rumours, nor do I know from the Commissioners what may be the Ultimatum of their offers; I most earnestly entreat, and recommend by every thing that can be estimable to men of your characters, and who are vested with so solemn a trust; that in case the Indian Americans should refuse the offers of the Commissioners, & the Congress should break up with mutual dissatisfaction (that you prevent and if possible foresee) any injury or insult that might be offered to the persons of the Commissioners; and that you exert all your power and influence to this effect in a far greater degree than you would do, should I have been at the Council, for my personal Protection & safety.

The Commissioners from what they have learned, have expressed apprehensions on this subject, and I am sure, I need not dilate, with what horror any sinister event that should happen to these gentlemen would be received by the Commander in Chief, Lord Dorchester, the British Nation, or our most excellent Sovereign.

It will give me the most entire satisfaction to learn that such principles of moderation and Justice shall prevail, between the contending parties, as that a safe & solid Peace may be established among them, and that the Indian Americans may in all events, be sensible of the Bounty of the King their Father, and remain inviolably attached to his Subjects and Government

I am Gentlemen, with great Regard
your most obedient and very faithful Servant

J. G. Simcoe,
Lt. Governor of Upper Canada.

John Butler & Alexander McKee, Esqrs.

Endorsed:
In General Clarke's to Mr. Dundas. No. 88.

[Q 65, p 307]

PETITION OF THE MERCHANTS AT DETROIT TO ERECT A WHARF.

Committee of Council. At the Council Chamber, Navy Hall, in the County of Lincoln, June 22, 1793.

Present
Honble Wm. Osgoode Chief Justice, Chairman.
The Honble Alexr Grant
The Honble James Baby.
The Honble Peter Russell.

Henry Hay—Petition for 5000 acres of Land on the River La Franche, to be granted to his mother and Family widow of the late Governor Hay of Detroit, and a reduced Field officer.

Ordered, That the prayer of this petition be granted & that the Surveyor General be directed to make a Return of Survey of the premisses, agreeable to the form of the petition.

Wm. & David Robinson George Leith & Co Merchants at Detroit.

Petition praying a permission to erect a wharf opposite the Town of Detroit at the landing of the east gate.

Ordered. That the same be referred to His Excellency.

James Allen of Detroit—Petition praying for a grant of Land Lots 5 & 6 on the east side of the River La Pêche.

Ordered That the same be granted, provided it is not located, but to be referred to the Land Board.

[Q 282–1, p 315]

MAJ. GEN. A. CLARKE TO COL. J. G. SIMCOE.

Extract of a Letter from General Clarke to Colonel Simcoe dated Quebec 24th June 1793.

"Your Excellency will herewith receive copy of my letter of the 2nd February to Mr. Dundas inclosing yours of the 25th November relative to the equipment of a Naval Force at Presq' Isle by the United States, by which you will perceive I have requested particular orders relative to the navigation of the Lakes by the subjects of the American States, and which I consider to involve the question on which you have now desired Instructions, vizt "What must be the conduct of the Commanders of the King's Garrisons of Niagara, Oswego, or Detroit in case any of the Vessels of the United States attempt to pass up the River by & within reach of the Forts?" The subject being thus under the consideration of the King's Ministers and having already stated my opinion that any other Instructions than those given by Lord Dorchester and approved at home

might be deemed improper, I feel it a matter of duty & necessity to defer giving any precise orders on this head not doubting that a speedy answer to my letter will relieve us both from our present anxiety, and trusting at the same time that the event anticipated will not happen, should it however unfortunately take place, much must depend upon discretion guided by the circumstances of the moment & should any thing appear threatening hostility, or that might in the most distant degree endanger the security of the King's Posts, I can have no hesitation to say that if after being warned to withdraw, they should persevere in a contrary conduct, compulsory measures should be adopted to force a compliance."

Endorsed:
In General Clarke's to Mr. Dundas. No. 88.

[Q 65, p 269]

COL. A. MC KEE TO LIEUT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE.

FOOT OF THE RAPIDS, MIAMIS, June 29th 1793.

SIR,

Since my letters to Your Excellency of the 11th & 12th Instant, large parties of different Nations of Indians have collected at this Place, those from *distant quarters* being nearly 1000.

The chiefs of the different Nations have expressed an anxious desire to send a Deputation to Niagara in order to have some explanation from the Commissioners concerning the extent of their authority, and also to conduct them to Sandusky, should there be no impediment that should render this meeting migratory. It is on this account that I have taken the Liberty of detaining Lieut Selby, that he may accompany them, and give your Excellency the latest intelligence of the transactions of this place. I had some thoughts of detaining this vessel which called here for the purpose of forwarding the Deputies, but Lt Colonel England has mentioned to me Your Excellency's anxiety for the return of the Chippewa, I have therefore given her all possible dispatch, & shall send an Express to Colonel England this day to request that the Felicity or any other vessel may be sent with as much dispatch as possible to bring some Provisions, and carry them down.

I foresee that the great consumption of Provisions required for the treaty will be at this place, on account of the very great delay in the meeting of the Indians, and their remaining so long on this Ground. I hope however that the original requisition added to what has been already received may answer the demand; Your Excellency may be assured at least that no unnecessary expenditure will be made by

Your Excellency's
most obedient and
Most faithful servant
A. McKee.

Indians from the Glaize this day still report and it is generally credited, that the Army of the United States have a large encampment near Fort Jefferson. I shall be more particularly informed in a few days.

Endorsed:
In General Clarke's to Mr. Dundas. No. 88.
His Excellency Lt. Governor Simcoe.

[Q 65, p 297]

COL. A. MC KEE TO LIEUT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE.

Foot of the Rapids Miamis July 1st 1793.

Sir,

The Deputies who accompany this are duly authorized on behalf of the General Indian Confederacy to speak to the Commissioners of the United States in the presence of Your Excellency, they see, with concern large bodies of the Troops of the United States still carrying on establishments in their Country—even as far as Fort Jefferson, the demolition of which together with all the Forts on this side of the Ohio, and that River for a boundary for ever between the contending parties were the Preliminaries on which the Confederacy consented to meet the Commissioners in order to effect a general and cordial pacification.

From the general union of sentiments throughout all the Nations it appears most evident to me, that the Indians have made a resolution not to make peace on any other terms, and should the Commissioners come to Sandusky without being fully authorized to conclude a treaty agreeable to the tenor of their message sent last Fall, I venture to assure Your Excellency that no good will result from it, and I feel it a duty to express my fears that it may

irritate, and inflame some of the nations to violence—which neither advice nor the fear of consequences will be able to restrain.

Mr. Talbot is just arrived with Your Excellencys dispatches which I have no opportunity at present to answer as the Deputies are just ready to go down to the vessel, and the importance of their mission requires all possible dispatch.

I have the honor to be with
Great respect
Your Excellency's
faithful and most
obedient servant
A. McKee.

His Excellency Lt. Govr. Simcoe.

Endorsed: 9.
In Genl. Clarke's to Mr. Dundas. No. 88.

[Q 65, p 299]

MINUTES OF A COUNCIL.

Minutes of a Council assembled & holden at Free Masons Hall, Niagara, Sunday the 7th of July, at the request of a Deputation of Indians from the western Confederacy.

Present

His Excellency Colonel Simcoe, commanding the King's Troops in Upper Canada.

Major Smith, 5th Regiment, Commandant of the Garrison of Niagara.

Captain Shank, Queen's Rangers, Commanding at Queenstown.

Captain Glasgow, Royal Artillery.

Major of Brigade Littlehales.

Lieutenant Talbot 24th Regiment.

also

several Officers of the Troops & Departments, some of the members of the Executive & Legislative Council and House of Assembly, Magistrates & respectable Inhabitants of the Province, &c.

Captain Joseph Brandt & about fifty Indians.

Joseph Brandt spoke in the name of the Deputation.

BROTHERS,

It being agreed at the Rapids that we should come & meet the Commissioners in our Father's presence: We return thanks to the Great Spirit for seeing Your Excellency well this day.

Our intention & business is peaceable and our inclination is to do what is right & just. We are all of one mind & wished Your Excellency to be present.

A Belt of Wampum delivered.

His Excellency in reply said, He was happy to see them well, and that as the Commissioners had expressed their wishes to meet the Indians in his presence he should be glad to hear what they had to say.

The Belt returned.

The Commissioners from the United States then entered the Hall & took their seats next to His Excellency viz:—

General Lincoln
General Randolph
Colonel Pickering

attended by their Secretary Mr. Storer & several Interpreters.

Joseph Brandt spoke,

With a wide Belt of White Wampum mixed with some Purple & several strings of White Wampum.

BROTHERS,

We have met to-day the English & Bostonians we are happy to see them together, and think it is by divine appointment.

Brothers of the United States, We informed You the other day at Fort Erie, that we would at a future period acquaint you with the reasons, why the Indians did not meet at the time & place appointed, their Reasons were, that the appearance of so many armed men, so far advanced into their Country, was the cause of delay, and their uneasiness.

BROTHERS,

We have told you one reason & we now come down to ask you the Reason of those Warlike appearances on the part of the United States?

BROTHERS,

The Indians whom you see here now, are sent by the Great People who are assembled to the Westward, and who own all the

country adjacent to, and on this side of the Ohio—they are all of one mind & one man.

BROTHERS,

We have come to speak to you on this subject of warlike appearances, which has occasioned the delay of our meeting. We still look for a meeting. But we wish to know however, if you are authorized to establish a Boundary between us and the United States?

BROTHERS,

We wish you would deliberately think of what we say. We speak in the presence of God—if we are wronged the Good Spirit will assist us.

A Belt of Wampum & Strings of Wampum.

General Lincoln spoke in reply.

BROTHERS,

We have listened with attention to what you have observed, we will take it into our serious consideration, and give you an answer to-morrow.

Joseph Brandt spoke.

BROTHERS,

We thank you for the reply you have made, that you will give us an answer to-morrow. So we cover up the Council Fire for the present.

Minutes of the Council continued.

FREE MASONS' HALL, Monday July 8th 1793.

Present.

His Excellency Colonel Simcoe, &c. &c. and the Commissioners for the United States, &c.

Colonel Pickering, one of the Commissioners read the following speech (with a large Belt & Strings of Wampum).

NIAGARA 8th July 1793.

"The answer of the Commissioners of the United States to the "Speech delivered yesterday by Captain Brandt, in behalf of the "Western Indians."

BROTHERS,

"By appointment of the Great Spirit we are again met together, "we hope he will assist us on both sides, to see, and to do what

"is right. It gives us pleasure that this meeting is in the presence "of our Brothers the English."

BROTHERS,

"Yesterday, according to your promise at Fort Erie, you told us "the reason why the Nations, whom you represent, had delayed "assembling at the time and place appointed for meeting us—it was "because there was so much of appearance of War in that Quarter.

BROTHERS,

"You requested an explanation of those warlike appearances."

BROTHERS,

"You told us that the People whom we saw here, were sent to "represent the Indian Nations, who own the Lands, on the north- "ern side of the Ohio, as their common property and who are all "of one mind and heart."

BROTHERS,

"You said you had two reasons for coming to speak to us here: "one, that our Warriors being in your neighborhood had prevented "your meeting at the appointed place. The other, to be informed "whether we are properly authorized to run & establish a new "boundary line between the Lands of the United States, & of the "Indian Nations—You added that you are still desirous of meeting "us at the appointed place.

BROTHERS,

"You desire that we would deliberate well on this business, You "declared that you spoke your sentiments in sincerity, considering "yourselves in the presence of God, from whom in time of danger "you expect assistance.

BROTHERS,

"We have repeated your Speech as we understood it from the "Interpretation: We hope that we have not mistaken your meaning."

BROTHERS,

"Now listen to our answer in behalf of the United States."

BROTHERS,

"You have mentioned two objects of your coming to meet us at "this place; one to obtain an explanation of the warlike appear- "ances on the part of the United States on the northern side of "the Ohio; The other to learn whether we have authority to run "and establish a new boundary Line between your Lands and ours."

Brothers,

"On the first point we cannot but express extreme regret that "any Reports of Warlike appearances on the part of the United "States should have delayed our meeting together at Sandusky."

Brothers,

"We were deputed by the Great Chief, & the Great Council of "the United States to treat with you of *Peace;* and is it possible "that the Great Chief & his Great Council could order their War- "riors to make fresh *War,* while we were sitting around the same "fire with you to make *Peace?* And is it possible that our Great "Chief & his Council could act so deceitfully towards us, their Com- "missioners, as well as towards you? Brothers—we think it is not "possible—but we will quit arguments and come to facts.

Brothers,

"We assure you that our Great Chief General Washington has "strictly forbidden all hostilities against you until the event of the "proposed Treaty at Sandusky shall be known. Here is the Proc- "lamation of his Head Warrior General Wayne, to that effect. But "Brothers our Great Chief is so sincere in his professions for Peace, "and so desirous of preventing everything which could obstruct the "Treaty and prolong the War; that besides giving those orders to "his Head Warrior, he has informed the Governors of the several "States, adjoining the Ohio, of the Treaty proposed to be held at "Sandusky, and desired them to unite their power with his to pre- "vent any hostile attempts against the Indians North of the Ohio, "until the result of the Treaty is made known. Those Governors "have accordingly issued their orders, strictly forbidding all such "hostilities. The Proclamation of the Governors of Virginia and "Pennsylvania we have here in our hands."

Brothers,

"If after all these precautions of our Great Chief, any hostilities "should be committed North of the Ohio, they must proceed from "a few disorderly People whom no considerations of Justice or "public good can restrain—We hope and believe that none such "will be found."

Brothers,

"After these explanations we hope you will possess your minds in "peace—relying on the good faith of the United States—that no "injury is to be apprehended by you during the Treaty."

Brothers,

"We now come to the second point whether we are author-
" ized to run, and establish a new boundary line between Your
" Lands & ours."

Brothers,

"We answer explicitly that we have that authority—Where this
" line should run will be the great subject of discussion between
" you & us at the Treaty; and we sincerely hope, and expect that
" it may then be fixed to the satisfaction of both parties. Doubt-
" less some concessions must be made on both sides. In all dis-
" putes & quarrels both parties usually take some wrong steps, so
" that 'tis only by mutual concessions that a true reconciliation can
" be effected."

Brothers,

"We wish you to understand us clearly on this head; for we
" mean that all our proceedings should be marked with candor. We
" therefore repeat & say explicitly that some concessions will be
" necessary on your part as well as on ours, in order to establish a
" just & permanent peace."

Brothers,

"After the great point of the Boundary shall be fully considered
" at the Treaty, we shall know what concessions & stipulations it
" will be proper to make on the part of the United States, and we
" trust they will be such as the world will pronounce reasonable &
" just."

Brothers,

"You have told us that you represent the nations of the Indians,
" who own the Lands, North of the Ohio, and whose Chiefs are now
" assembled at the Rapids of the Miamis."

Brothers,

"It would be a satisfaction to us to be informed of the Names
" of those Nations, and of the numbers of chiefs of each so assem-
" bled."

Brothers,

"We once more turn our eyes to your representation of the
" Warlike appearances in your country, and to give you complete
"satisfaction on this point, we now assure you, that, as soon as our
" Councils are ended, we will send a messenger on horseback to the
" Great Chief of the United States to desire him to renew &

"strongly repeat his orders to his Head Warrior, not only to "abstain from all hostilities against you; but to remain quietly at "his Posts till the event of the Treaty shall be known."

"The above Speech & Belt of Wampum and Strings were then "delivered to Captain Joseph Brandt."

"The Indians then communed among themselves. Cats-Eyes a "Shawanoe Chief arose & spoke.

BROTHERS,

"Bostonians attend! We have heard your words & our Fathers' "the English have also heard them. We thank God, he has pre- "served you till now, to bring our Pipes together. The People of "the different Nations who have heard you this day salute you. "They have rejoiced to hear your words, and that our Fathers the "English have heard them. We shall for the present take up our "Pipes, and return to our Camp, where we shall deliberately con- "sider your Speech, and all you have said to us—and we shall "return you an answer to-morrow.

Joseph Brant spoke.

BROTHERS,

We suppose you have nothing further to add; we shall take up your Speech and consider it, so as there is nothing else to be done this day we shall cover up the Council Fire.

Minutes of Council continued (third meeting).

FREE MASONS' HALL, Tuesday July 9th 1793.

Present.

His Excellency Colonel Simcoe, &c. &c. and the Commissioners from the United States &c.

Jospeh Brandt spoke,

And addressed himself to the English, and Americans, he was glad the Great Spirit had preserved them all in Peace to meet this day.

A Belt of White Wampum & strings of White & Purple Wampum.

BROTHERS OF THE UNITED STATES,

You yesterday made a reply to us the Deputies from the Great Men at the Miamis. You have replied to the two particulars—You may depend we understand Your Speech. We shall take this Belt and these Strings and repeat your Speech to the Great Men, who sit round the Council Fire at the Miamis.

BROTHERS,

We have something further to say, yet it is not much. We are but small—the Great People are at the Miamis—but tho' we are small, yet we have something to say.

From your Speech there is a prospect of our meeting—We are all of one mind and one heart—We are all Relations—and we hope whatever may be done may be lasting and binding. Our Prospects, Brothers, are the more encouraging as our minds are now all one—and we are now altogether as to the Indian's Deputies.

Our first wishes in Land affairs were that all the nations of the Indian Confederacy should be together, it approaches now near to our wishes.

The Reasons why matters have not been properly transacted before, are because those whom you treated with, were but few—only a small part of the Indian Confederacy, but now they are *all* about to assemble, business may be done, so we take you by the hand, and conduct you to the meeting.

(The Belt delivered.)

BROTHERS,

This is all we have to say.

BROTHERS,

As you yesterday expressed your wishes to know the Nations, and their numbers, we cannot say exactly, but we know who were there when we came away, and they were increasing daily. You will soon see them yourselves. He then delivered the names of the Several Nations & principal Men, as follows.

Five Nations.
Wyandots.
Shawanese.
Delawares.
Munsees.
Miamis.
Ottawas.
Chippewas.
Potawatamies.
Mingoes.
Cherokees.
Nantikokes.

General Lincoln spoke,

BROTHERS,

Our ears have been open to your Speech, it is agreeable to us, we are ready to take you by the hand, and attend you to the place of Treaty where I hope, we shall be guided by the Great Spirit, and that there may be a termination to the present disputes on terms equally advantageous, and satisfactory to all parties.

The ceremony of covering up the Council Fire was gone through & then the meeting broke up.

Endorsed:
In Genl. Clarke's to Mr. Dundas. No. 88.

[Q 65, p 284]

LT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE TO MAJ. GEN. A. CLARKE.

Extract of a Letter from His Excellency Lieutenant Governor Simcoe to Major General Clarke dated Navy Hall July 10th 1793.

"I do myself the honor of acquainting Your Excellency, that on Friday last a Deputation from the American Indians assembled at the Miamis Rapids, arrived at Fort Erie, consisting of Joseph Brandt, & near fifty chiefs of the several Nations;—The Commissioners of the United States not having sailed for Fort Erie owing to contrary winds, the Deputation waited upon, and informed them that they would assemble at Niagara as soon as they conveniently could, and in my presence acquaint them, of the object of their mission, this, the Commissioners with great readiness assented to, and the meeting was held on Sunday morning the 7th. The proceedings of which, I have the honor to enclose to Your Excellency; The Commissioners go this day to Fort Erie, to embark in His Majesty's schooner Dunmore, which as I have informed Your Excellency is ordered to attend those gentlemen to the place appointed for the Treaty."

"I beg leave to add that the Seven Nations of Canada amounting to nearly 280 Indians arrived here from Kingston yesterday under the Superintendence of the Messrs. Lorimiere and La Motte; they will be forwarded with the utmost expedition to their Western Brethern, with the Deputation who are also upon the eve of their departure to the westward."

"Colonel Butler returned with the Deputation from the Miamis; and I do not understand that His Health will permit him to return thither."

"I enclose for Your Excellency's information the copies of two letters I have received from Colonel McKee."

"Brandt seems inclined to give up some cultivated settlements on the north of the Ohio, and Intimates the Shawanese to be of that opinion—Nothing like this appears in Colonel McKee's letters, nor does Lt. Talbot who has returned hither, place such a construction upon the conversations he had in confidence with Colonel McKee."

"It is remarkable that Colonel McKee told Mr. Talbot that he had been informed that Captain Brandt in conversation with Colonel Butler, said that "He was pledged to Congress to give it as his "opinion to the Council, that the Indian Nations should give up "part of the territory, on the northern side of the Ohio."

"Your Excellency will see therefore that there may be still a difference of opinion in the Indian Councils, I purpose to write strongly on this subject to Colonel McKee, and have endeavoured more strongly to fix upon Brandt's mind, the necessity of that Union, which I trust in the result will be the safeguard of the Indian Nations and highly beneficial to Great Britain.

Endorsed:
In Genl. Clarke's to Mr. Dundas. No. 88.

[Q 65, p 282]

COUNCIL OF INDIANS AT NIAGARA.

[From the Upper Canada Gazette of Thursday, July 11th, 1793.]

NIAGARA July 11.

On Friday last His Majesty's Snow Chippewa arrived at Fort Erie, from the Miamies River, near fifty Indian Chiefs came passengers in this vessel as a Deputation from the Confederated American Indians, to the Commissioners of the United States (these gentlemen as mentioned in our last paper, were detained at Fort Erie by contrary winds) the Indian Deputation soon afterwards came to Niagara, and on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday last; three several Councils were held in the presence of His Excellency, the Commissioners and the Officers of the Garrison, &c. &c. &c. The results of which were that the Indian Deputation gave the Commissioners a Belt of Wampum to conduct them to the place of Treaty at Lower Sandusky.

[Q 279-2, p 295]

MEMORIAL OF J. SCHIEFFELIN FOR LAND ON DETROIT RIVER.

Committee of Council At the Council Chamber Navy Hall, in the County of Lincoln July 11th, 1793.

Present.

The Honble Wm. Osgoode Chief Justice, Chairman.
The Honble Alexr. Grant.
The Honble James Baby.

JONATHAN SCHIEFFELIN, LIEUT.

Memorial praying for Four hundred Acres on the River la Franche and three hundred acres on the South East side of the River Detroit, and a lot of about three Hundred Acres in the front Concession on the South East side of the River Detroit, bounded on the South West by Alexis Maisonville and on the North East by Antoine Labady.

Ordered. That he shall have a grant with what he has received to make altogether Twelve Hundred Acres and that the acting Surveyor General be directed to assign him the residue.

[Q 282-1, p 334]

COUNCIL HELD AT THE FOOT OF THE MIAMIS RAPIDS.

To the Commissioners of the United States,

BROTHERS,

The Deputies we sent to you did not fully explain our meaning we have therefore sent others to meet you once more that you may fully understand the great question we have to ask of you, and to which we expect an explicit answer in writing.

BROTHERS,

You are sent here by the United States to make a Peace with us the Confederate Indians.

Brothers,

"You know very well the Boundary line which was run between the White People and us at the Treaty of Fort Stanwix was the River Ohio.

Brothers,

If you sincerely design to make a firm & lasting peace you will immediately remove all your People from our side of that River.

Brothers,

We therefore ask you; are you fully authorized by the United States to continue & firmly fix on the Ohio as the Boundary Line between your People & ours?

Given in General Council at the foot of the Miamis Rapids 27th July, 1793.

Endorsed: 1.
In Lord Dorchester's to Mr. Dundas. No. 2 of the 25 Oct. 1793.

[Q 66, p 178]

CAPT. JOSEPH BRANT TO LIEUT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE.

Foot of the Miamis Rapids 28th July 1793.

Sir,

The Indian Affairs in this quarter having lately taken a turn which as a great part of the Indians do not approve, makes it necessary for me to address Your Excellency on this subject.

When we left this with a Deputation to meet the Commissioners at Niagara, everything seemed to promise fair and we had a prospect of attaining the end of our wishes, but on our return we found these desirable objects vanished, distrust seemed to prevail, and the Deputies were blamed, this great change may be owing to advice received from the Creek Country.

It was alledged that we should then have insisted on the line made in 1768 between the English and Indians—But we differed in opinion, thinking that Sandusky was the place appointed for the discussion of that object, and where a permanent boundary should be fixed face to face, in the presence of all the Indians, & if we did not agree the Reason's would then be adduced.

The Ottawas, Chippewas, Pottewatamies and some others were perfectly satisfied with the conduct of the Deputies, but I must say that I do not see the least inclination for peace amongst some of the Tribes.

They have yesterday come to point of sending a Speech to the Commissioners who are still at the mouth of Detroit River, of which the enclosed paper is a copy, from which I think it is almost certain that no peace will take place.

After the most attentive consideration and weighing the situation of the confederacy, I am still of the same opinion that I have been these five years, and which I think I explained to Your Excellency, that the Ohio ought to be the boundary as far up as the Muskingum and this is the line the Confederacy have contended for, it appears to me the most proper, as it would answer the expectations of the moderate and neutral Indians, & would only be opposed by the hot-headed, this would in my opinion be the true interest of the Indians, but I am afraid the steps they are now taking will have a contrary effect.

I hope Your Excellency will excuse me for speaking thus freely, but the present situation of the Indians and my own feeling prompts me to do every thing in my power for what I look upon to be their Interest, which I look upon to be inseparable from my own. If I do not succeed I shall have the satisfaction to reflect that I have done everything I could and time will show whether I was right or not.

As matters are thus circumstanced I request Your Excellency will have the goodness to assist us with your advice, which I shall wait for here, and indeed I cannot think of leaving the Country, at a time when there is no appearance of an abrupt termination of the present business, which must unavoidably create some confusion.

I have the honor to be &c.

Jos. Brant.

His Excellency Govr. Simcoe, &c. &c.

Endorsed: 2.
In General Clarke's to Mr. Dundas. No. 93.

[Q 65, p 339]

COL. A. MC KEE TO LIEUT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE.

Foot of the Rapids 28th July 1793.

Sir,

In consequence of an Express from Lieutenant Colonel England signifying Your Excellency's anxiety for the return of the Ottawa to Fort Erie and his direction for her to proceed thither, I have sent down to have the cargo landed on Turtle Island, that his

instructions may be complied with; But I must at the same time inform Your Excellency that we cannot move from hence to Sandusky without the assistance of a vessel to transport the Provisions thither, of course I must remain here until a Vessel arrives for that purpose.

The answer which the Commissioners sent hither by the Deputies is far from being satisfactory to the Indians. They have stated that they have authority to run & establish a *new* Boundary Line; the General Council seem resolved not to depart from their former resolutions respecting the Boundary, and have this day sent off other Deputies, for the purpose of being informed from the Commissioners whether they have authority to continue and firmly fix on the River Ohio as the Boundary between them, and it appears as if the whole business will hinge on the Commissioners answer to that question.

Attempts have not been wanting to divide the Confederacy, which have hitherto been resisted with firmness, and I trust will be continued to crush the monster in its birth.

With the greatest respect
I have the honor to be, &c.

A. McKee.

His Excellency Governor Simcoe, &c. &c. &c.

Endorsed: 5.
In General Clarke's to Mr. Dundas. No. 93.

[Q 65, p 347]

LETTER FROM LIEUT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE.

Navy Hall July 29th 1793.

Sir,

I do myself the honor of informing Your Excellency that on the 24th instant Mr. Welland whom I remember in the beginning of the late War as a Loyalist & who afterwards held a Commission in His Majesty's service, arrived at this place from the Creek Nation;—this gentleman accompanied the Deputies from the Creeks & Cherokees to the Council at the Miamis.

The Shawanese who had been sent by the Western Indian Confederacy last Autumn to invite the Southern Indians to join them, had assured those Nations of the assistance of this Government with Arms and Ammunition.

Mr. Welland states that being doubtful of the truth of this assertion, he contributed all the influence which four years residence among those people had given to him to prevent their declaring War against the United States, till himself should return from Sandusky—but to no purpose,—as before he left the Country two bodies of the Creek Nation, one consisting of 1,500, the other of 1,000 men, had marched against the People of the United States. By this Gentleman's account the encroachments of Governor Blunt on the Cherokees have been as unjust as those which the Western Indians complain to have been made by General St. Clair. Mr. Welland confirms the truth of the Spanish Governor's pushing on the Choctaws to join the Confederacy, and I have a letter from Price, a half-bred Indian, speaking of his belief, that the Chicasaws will be soon added to the Confederacy and that it will be universal through the whole extent of the Nations on this side of the Mississippi.

Mr. Welland states, that the Shawanese held the same language, that they were sure of support from this Government, to the very moment of their returning to the Miamis, that they concealed the treaty now pending, and that Colonel McKee was very angry with their proceedings.

In this State of affairs, I am perfectly persuaded that all attempts at pacification will prove abortive; I have written however as strongly as possible to Colonel McKee, to endeavor to prevent this new combination from influencing the determination of the Indian Council.

It appears that Mr. Wellbank had some communication by letter with Sir John Johnson & Colonel McKee, at the period in which it was supposed that War would take place between Great Britain & Spain. He states the Creek nation as universally attached to Great Britain; he states himself as a friend of Mr. Bowles, and to that trade which the Merchants of the Bahamas are endeavoring to effect with the Creek Nation; he has given me information that a vessel from the Bahamas and calculated for that purpose was lately taken by the Spaniards; his business with me & the letters of the Creek Nation to Colonel McKee, were to desire a support in this trade, which is in all probability not so much opposed by the Spanish Government, provided no permanent Settlement of White Inhabitants should arise from it, as by the British Merchants settled at New Orleans who now exercise a monopoly injurious to the Indians.

I have transmitted to Mr. Hammond, the statement of this Gentleman; and am only to add, that as he appears a person of discre-

tion, perfectly loyal & whose correspondence may be of future advantage, I have without hesitation complied with his request of giving him Ten Pounds to carry him back to the Nation; of which he professes himself a part, and submit to Your Excellency whether such a donation may be classed with other Indian expenses under your general direction; or whether I must take it upon myself in my public accounts as Lieutenant Governor of this Province.

I have the honor to be Sir
Your Excellency's most obedient
& most faithful Servant
J. G. SIMCOE,
Lt. Govr. Upper Canada.

Endorsed: 1.
In General Clarke's to Mr. Dundas. No. 93.

[Q 65, p 336]

LT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE TO MAJ. GEN. A. CLARKE.

NAVY HALL July 29th 1793.

SIR,

I have directed Major Brigade Littlehales to enclose to Captain Lemaistre for Your Excellency's Information a Return of the certificates Issued for Flour, &c. at the Posts at Detroit and Niagara previous to the time of receiving Information relative to the new contract for provisions.

I conceive the faith of Government to be so much involved in these certificates that I have put my signature to the Returns mentioned and recommended the discharge of them—by payment to be made in the usual manner at Quebec.

The terms and conditions for receiving the Flour I conceive should be the same for the quantities under certificate as if the contract had not taken place.

I had not received sufficient information before now to apprize Mr. Craigie fully of the engagements entered into in regard to flour, previous to the receipt of this letter advising the new mode established by the Treasury for furnishing provisions.

The Certificates issued before that time in the *usual approved mode* cannot but receive my sanction and recommendation for payment. Those which *I* personally recommended were made upon the grounds of having a deposit in the case of Mr. Beasly at a particular place, for the Troops I intended to employ in the communica-

tion and in that of the King's Mills that it seems but Just that no contract should preclude the tenant from paying his rent in flour of an equal value and at the general Price of the contract. I am to observe to Your Excellency that at the request of the members of the House of Assembly of this Province I am immediately to transmit to the King's Ministers their petition against what those gentlemen consider as severe hardship to the people of this Province.

I am &c. &c.

J. G. SIMCOE.

His Excellency M. Genl. Clarke.

Endorsed: F.
In Lt. Governor Simcoe's of the 19th Decr. 1794.
In Lt. Governor Simcoe's No. 31 to Lord Dorchester.

[Q 281-1, p 127]

STATEMENTS SUBMITTED TO HENRY DUNDAS BY LT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE.

The following requisitions and statements for the Province of Upper Canada is submitted to Mr. Dundas for his approbation by desire of Colo. Simcoe.

7th The French Emigrants would be useful to settle at Detroit as they would cover our right flank and might oppose their Aristocratical Principles against the Republick Ideas of the Americans.

8th. The French settled at Detroit have their Representatives in the Assembly and are likewise of the Legislative and Executive Council tho' by the Line of Demarkation they belong to the Americans—are they to be considered as English subjects, if not how will it affect the laws to which they have given their assent.

General Wayne with the American Army is in Kentucky should he come to the Miami he will create jealousy for Detroit.

All the late settlers in U. Canada have settled in it and extended their little property in their establishment under the firm persuasion that Great Britain could not be so impolitic as to cede the posts to America.

The Americans will promise to demolish the Posts, and to permit Our Traders to enter the Indian Country, if we will give them up; But, once strengthened on the frontier, they will soon find a cause for a Dispute.

The Americans will not consent to a new line of demarcation, as being well aware that if they keep the present one, the period is not distant, that will put them in possession of the Canadas.

When America is strong enough to go to war with us, we may dread the consequence.

The Instructions to General St Clair, taken at his defeat, point out the views of America.

The Contest, in which Great Britain is engaged, may appear favorable to the Americans, and they may wait to see her exhausted, before they dare to assent, or attempt to support their claim.

The season is now too far advanced to send to that country a force that might enable them to adopt some prudent measure. To procure a respectable defensive, it will be proper for Great Britain to digest a plan this Autumn for the final adjustment of our Boundaries with America, and during the winter send a person to Mr. Hammond with their determination, that, that Person may proceed after Mr. Hammond has received the Americans answer, to Ld Dorchester & Col. Simcoe, to acquaint them with what has passed, & enable them to take such measures, as may then be most prudent.

Great Britain need not fear a war, if she acts with vigor, the most formidable Indian Confederacy is in her favor & without striking a Blow may serve to intimidate.

It was the general request of the Indian Confederacy, that you should be the mediator between them and the Americans, as you possess the Treaties made with them, and the Americans can only succeed to Your Rights.

The Congress, in all their Debates antecedent to the Dispute, acknowledged the Indians to be the friends and allies of Great Britain; If they do not admit it in the present instance 'tis only because it would set aside their pretensions.

The injustice of the American claim may be found in the copy of Indian Deed (or grant) of the Genesee Country (which was once submitted to Mr. Dundas's inspection) I name that one, because it can be produced, but most of the American Pretensions will be founded on their willing misrepresentations of the cession of Territory by the Treaty. They chose to consider us as the Proprietors

of the Soil, that the Indian might imagine we had sold him. Mr. Dundas will best know whether the Indian has not suspected that we meant to desert him, and whether we gave him that support he thought himself entitled to expect.

The Indians in this Contest with the Americans have shewn of what vast advantage they may be to government; They have for four years kept the American Power in check.

CHAS. STEVENSON,
Capt. 5th Regt.

Endorsed:
Capt. Stevenson's Suggestions.
R. July 31st 1793.

[Q 62, p 227]

ANSWER OF LORD DORCHESTER.

Lord Dorchester's answers to the Requisitions and Statements for the Province of Upper Canada as submitted to Mr. Dundas by desire of Col. Simcoe without Date, but endorsed 31 July 1793.

Answer to 7th Article—Emigrants of sound principles will be of advantage at Detroit, and all through the Country.

Answer to 8th Article—It is to be wished they may be considered as English subjects.

Answer to 12th Article—'Tis to be wished the Frontier may be settled by Treaty agreeable to what is in contemplation; The weakness of the present is too visible. Four thousand men should be sent to enable the Canadas to make a tolerable Defence in case the Americans should attack them.

PORTSMOUTH August 4th 1793. DORCHESTER.

Endorsed:
Lord Dorchester's remarks on Capt. Stevenson's Suggestions.
R. Augt. 5 1793.

[Q 62, p 235]

ANSWER OF LT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE.

8th. I have never intimated a doubt but that the settlers at Detroit are amenable to our Laws, to mention to Mr. Hammond the extent of our Boundary and to define it is one of the instructions Major of Brigade Littlehales is charged with at present that by previous orders it may prevent any misunderstanding on this point, should Wayne approach the Strait. This Boundary is the River au Raisin; doubts have been entertained by the judges on this point, but they had no weight in preventing my calling upon them for Representation.

J. G. SIMCOE.

Endorsed:
In Lt. Govr. Simcoe's of the 28th Feb. 1794.

[Q 280–1, p 109]

REPLY OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE UNITED STATES TO THE INDIANS.

The Speech of the Commissioners of the United States to the Deputies of the Confederate Indian Nations assembled at the Rapids of the Miamis River.

BROTHERS,

Yesterday you addressed us, mentioning a former deputation who met us at Niagara. At that meeting you said we did not come to a right understanding; That your Deputies did not fully explain your meaning to us, nor we ours, to them; that you desired we might rightfully understand each other; & therefore thought it best that what you had to say should be put into writing, then handing us a paper you said "Here is the meaning of our Hearts."

BROTHERS,

That Paper is directed to the Commissioners of the United States, and speaks to them these words; to wit:

Brothers,

"The Deputies we sent to you did not fully explain our meaning; "we have therefore sent others to meet you once more, that you "may fully understand the great question we have to ask of you, "and to which we expect an explicit answer in writing."

Brothers,

"You are sent here by the United States to make Peace with us, "the Confederate Indians."

Brothers,

"You know very well that the Boundary line that was run between "the White People and us at the Treaty of Fort Stanwix was the "River Ohio."

Brothers,

"If you seriously design to make a firm and lasting peace you "will immediately remove all your people from our side of that "River."

Brothers,

"We therefore ask you, are you fully authorized by the United "States, to continue & firmly fix on the Ohio River as the bound-"ary line between your people & ours.

Brothers,

The Deputies here present, we have now repeated the words contained in the paper which you delivered to us; & those words have been interpreted to you. We presume the interpretation agrees with your idea of the contents of the paper. It is expressed to be signed by the Wyandots, Delawares, Shawanese, Miamis, Mingoes, Potawatamies, Ottawas, Counroys, Chippewas, and Munseys in behalf of themselves & the whole confederacy, & agreed to in a full Council.

Brothers,

We are a little surprized at the suggestion, that in the conference at Niagara, we did not come to a right understanding; and that Your Deputies did not fully explain your meaning. Those Deputies appeared to be men of good sense, and when we saw them they were perfectly sober. In short we never saw men in public Council, more attentive, or behave with more propriety, we could not therefore suppose they could mistake your meaning or ours. Certainly we were sufficiently explicit, for in plain words we declared "That in order to establish a firm & permanent peace, some conces-

"sions would be necessary on your part as well as on ours." These words, are a part of our Speech to Your Deputies; and that Speech, they assured us, they fully understood. What these concessions should be, on both sides, & where the boundary line should be fixed, were proper subjects of discussion at the Treaty, when we should speak face to face. This we are certain would be the best way to remove all difficulties. But Your Nations have adopted another mode, which by keeping us at a distance, prevents our knowing each other, & keeps alive those jealousies which are the greatest obstacles to a Peace. We are therefore desirous of meeting your nations in full council without more delay. We have already waited in this province sixty days beyond the time appointed for opening the Treaty.

Brothers,

We have now expressed our opinion of the proper mode of settling the differences between you and the United States; But as your nations have desired answers to certain questions, previous to our meeting, and we are disposed to act with frankness and sincerity, we will give you an explicit answer to the great question you have now proposed to us. But before we do this, we think it necessary to look back to some former transactions, & we desire you patiently to hear us.

Brothers,

We do know very well that at the Treaty of Fort Stanwix, twenty five years ago, The River Ohio was agreed on as the Boundary, between you and the white People of the British Colonies. And we all know that about seven years after that boundary was fixed a quarrel broke out between Your Father the King of Great Britain & the people of those Colonies, which are now the United States. This quarrel was ended by the Treaty of peace, made with the King about Ten years ago, by which the Great Lakes & the waters which unite them, were by him declared to be the boundaries of the United States.

Brothers,

Peace having been made between the King of Great Britain & the United States, it remained to make peace between them & the Indian Nations who had taken part with the King. For this purpose Commissioners were appointed who sent Messages to all those Indian Nations, inviting them to come & make peace. The first treaty was held about nine years ago with the Six Nations, at Fort Stanwix;

which has stood firm & unviolated to this day. The next Treaty was made about ninety days after at Fort McIntosh with the Half King of the Wyandots, Capt Pipe & other Chiefs, in behalf of the Wyandots, Delaware, Ottawa & Chippawa Nations.

Afterwards treaties were made with divers Indian Nations, South of the River Ohio, & the next Treaty was made with Kakaipilattry, here present & other Shawanese Chiefs, in behalf of the Shawanese Nation at the Mouth of the Great Miamis, which runs into the Ohio.

BROTHERS,

The Commissioners who conducted these Treaties, in behalf of the United States, sent the papers containing them to the Great Council of the States, who supposing them satisfactory to the Nations treated with, proceeded to dispose of large Tracts of the Land thereby ceded, and a great number of people removed from other parts of the United States & settled upon them. Also many families of your ancient Fathers the French came over the Great Water, & settled on a part of the same Lands.

BROTHERS,

After some time it appeared that a number of people in your Nations were dissatisfied with the treaties of Fort McIntosh & Miami, therefore the Great Council of the United States appointed Governor St Clair their Commissioner with full powers for the purpose of removing all causes of controversy, regulating trade, & settling boundaries between the Indian Nations in the Northern Department of the United States. He accordingly sent messages, inviting all the Nations concerned to meet him at a Council Fire which he kindled at the Falls of the Muskingum. Whilst he was waiting for them, some mischief happened at that place and the fire was put out. So he kindled a council fire at Fort Harmar, where near Six hundred Indians of different Nations then renewed & confirmed the Treaty of Fort Stanwix; and the Wyandots & Delawares, renewed & confirmed the Treaty of Fort McIntosh. Some Ottawas, Chippawas, Pottawatamies & Sacks were also parties to this treaty of Fort Harmar.

BROTHERS,

All these Treaties we have here with us. We have also the speeches of many Chiefs who attended them & who voluntarily express their satisfaction with the terms of those treaties.

BROTHERS,

After making all these treaties and after hearing the Chiefs freely express their satisfaction with them, the United States expected to

enjoy peace, & quietly to hold the lands ceded to them. Accordingly large Tracts have been sold & settled as before mentioned.

And now Brothers, we answer explicitly, that for the reasons which we here stated to you, it is impossible for us to make the River Ohio the boundary between your people & the people of the United States.

Brothers,

You are men of understanding & if you consider the customs of white People, the great expences which attend this settling in a new country, the nature of their improvements, in building houses & barns, and clearing & fencing their lands, how valuable the Lands are thus rendered, & thence how dear they are to them. You will see that it is now impracticable to remove our people from the northern side of the Ohio. Your Brothers the English know the natures of white People, and they know that under the circumstances which we have mentioned, the United States cannot make the Ohio the Boundary between you & us.

Brothers,

You seem to consider all the Lands in dispute, on your side of the Ohio, as claimed by the United States; But suffer us to remind you, that a large tract was sold by the Wyandots & Delaware Nations to the State of Pennsylvania. This tract lies East of a line drawn from the mouth of Beaver Creek, at the Ohio, due north to Lake Erie. This line is the Western Boundary of Pennsylvania, as claimed by the charter given by the King of England to your ancient friend William Penn. Of this sale made by the Wyandot and Delaware Nations to the State of Pennsylvania, we have never heard any complaint.

Brothers,

We are obliged on this occasion to make a long Speech, we again desire you to hear us patiently. The business is of the highest importance; and a great many words are necessary fully to explain it; for we desire you may perfectly understand us. And there is no danger of your forgetting what we say, because we will give you our speech in writing.

Brothers,

We have explicitly explained to you that we cannot now make the Ohio River the boundary between us. This agrees with our Speech to your Deputies at Niagara—that in order to establish a just & permanent peace, some concessions would be necessary on your

part as well as ours. Brothers the concessions which we think necessary on your part are that you yield up & finally relinquish to the United States some of the Lands your side of the Ohio. The United States wish to have confirmed all the Lands ceded to them by the treaty of Fort Harmar; and also a small tract of Land at the Rapids of the Ohio, claimed by General Clarke, for the use of himself and his warriors; and in consideration thereof, the United States would give such a large sum in money or goods as was never given at one time for any quantity of Indian Lands since the White People first set their feet on this Island, and because these Lands did every year furnish you with Skins & Furs with which you bought clothing & other necessaries, the United States will now furnish the like constant supplies; & therefore besides the great sum to be delivered at once they will every year deliver you a large quantity of such goods as are best fitted to the wants of yourselves, your Women & Children.

Brothers,

If all the Lands before mentioned cannot be yielded up to the United States, then we shall desire to treat & agree with you on a new boundary line; & for the quantity of Land you relinquish to us within that new boundary, we shall stipulate a generous compensation, not only for a large sum to be paid at once, but for a yearly Rent for the benefit of yourselves and your children forever.

Brothers,

Here you see one concession which we are willing to make on the part of the United States. Now listen to another, of a claim which probably has more disturbed your minds than any other whatever.

Brothers,

The Commissioners of the United States have formerly set up a claim to your whole Country Southward of the Great Lakes, as the property of the United States; grounding this claim on the Treaty of Peace with your Father the King of Great Britain, who declared as we have before mentioned, the middle of those Lakes & the waters which unite them, to be the boundaries of the United States.

Brothers,

We are determined that our whole conduct shall be marked with openness & sincerity, We therefore frankly tell you that we think those Commissioners put an erroneous construction on that part of

our treaty with the King—as he had not purchased the country of you, of course he could not give it away. He only relinquished to the United States his claim to it. That claim was founded on a right acquired by Treaty with other white Nations to exclude them from purchasing or settling in any part of your country; and it is this right which the King granted to the United States. Before that Grant the King alone had a right to purchase of the Indian Nations any of the Lands between the Great Lakes, the Ohio & the Mississippi excepting the part within the charter boundary of Pennsylvania; and the King by the Treaty of Peace having granted this right to the United States they alone have now the right of purchasing. So that now neither the King nor any of his people have any right to interfere with the United States in respect to any part of those Lands. All your Brothers the English know this to be true and it agrees with the declaration of Lord Dorchester to your Deputies of Quebec two years ago.

BROTHERS,

We now concede this great point: We by the express authority of the President of the United States acknowledge the property or right of soil of the great country above described to be in the Indian Nations so long as they desire to occupy the same. We only claim particular tracts in it as beforementioned and the general right granted by the King as above stated & which is well known to the English & Americans and called the right of pre-emption or the right of purchasing of the Indian Nations disposed to sell their lands to the exclusion of all other white People whatever.

BROTHERS,

We have now opened our hearts to you. We are happy in having an opportunity of doing it; though we should have been more happy to have done it in the full Council of your Nations. We expect soon to have this satisfaction and that your next deputation will take us by the hand & lead us to the Treaty. Where we meet & converse with each other freely we may more easily remove any difficulties which may come in the way of peace.

At Capt. Elliot's, at the Mouth of Detroit River, this thirty first day of July 1793.

B. LINCOLN,
BEVERLY RANDOLPH } Commrs.
TIMOTHY PICKERING

Endorsed: 2.
In Lord Dorchester's to Mr. Dundas. No. 2. of the 25th Oct. 1793.

LIEUT. GOV. ALURED CLARKE TO HENRY DUNDAS.

QUEBEC 8th August 1793.

SIR,

I have the honor to inclose you an Extract (No 1) of a letter* of the 31st May last received from Colonel Simcoe stating his opinions upon the actual situation of Upper Canada and its principal Fortresses together with the modes of communication and defence proposed by him and at the same time requesting Instruction "What must be the conduct of the Commanders of the King's "Garrisons of Niagara, Oswego or Detroit in case any of the vessels "of the United States shall attempt to pass up the River by and "within reach of the Forts?" An Extract (No 2) of my letter† in answer is inclosed. Conceiving the subject as already under consideration of the King's Ministers and being in hopes of receiving a speedy answer to my letter (No 64) of the 2nd February I considered it a matter of necessity and duty to defer giving my precise orders till I should be honored with His Majesty's commands on this head.

The inclosures (No 3 to 11) contain the latest advices received from the Upper Posts respecting the Proceedings of the Indians and the Commisioners appointed by the United States to negotiate a Treaty of Peace.

I have the honor to be with great respect Sir
Your most obedt & Most faithful humble Servt
ALURED CLARKE.

The Right Honble Henry Dundas.

Endorsed: Quebec 8th August 1793.
Lt. Govr. Clarke. No. 88.
R. 29th Sept. 11 Inclosures.

[Q 65, p 251]

LIEUT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE TO CAPT. JOSEPH BRANT.

YORK, August 8th 1793.

DEAR SIR,

I have just received your letters from the Miami Rapids.

It is with great concern that I hear from you there is any difference of opinion among the Indians.

Peace appears to be the most desirable object; and I have always as you well know both in private conversation and by public messages

* Published on page 540.
† Published on page 557.

endeavored to impress a disposition and temper that may lead to that blessing among the Indian Nations who have requested my opinion.

But you must see that as the Indians are the best Judges on what terms a Peace may be made that shall secure their Interests; and at their own requests as I have directed their Agents to attend, fully to explain to them any circumstances which they may not clearly understand in the negociations between them, and the Commissioners of the United States, it would be unnecessary for me to give my opinion on the precise boundary that may be requisite to secure the stipulations of the treaty now depending, from being hereafter violated.

Since the Government of the United States have shown a disinclination to concur with the Indian Nations, in requesting of His Majesty, the permitting me to attend as a mediator at Sandusky, it would be highly improper and unreasonable in me to give any opinion relative to the proposed boundaries with which I am not sufficiently acquainted, and which Question I have studiously avoided entering into as I am well aware of the jealousies entertained by some of the subjects of the United States of the interference of the British Government which has a natural & decided interest in the welfare of the Indian Nations and in the Establishment of Peace and permanent tranquility.

In this situation I am sure you will excuse me from giving to you, any advice which from my absence from the spot cannot possibly arise from that perfect view & knowledge which so important a subject necessarily demands.

Be assured of my best wishes for the Union, Prosperity and Peace of the Indian Nations, and that I am with great personal regard,

Dear Sir &c

J. G. Simcoe,
Lt. Govr. Upper Canada.

Captain Brant,

Endorsed: 4.
In General Clarke's to Mr. Dundas. No. 93.

[Q 65, p 344]

REPLY OF THE INDIANS TO THE COMMISSIONERS OF THE UNITED STATES.

To the Commissioners of the United States.

Brothers,

We have received your Speech dated the 31st of last month, and it has been interpreted to all the different Nations. We have been long

in sending you an answer because of the great importance of the subject but we now answer it fully having given it all the consideration in our power.

BROTHERS,

You tell us that after you had made Peace with the King our Father, about ten years ago "it remained to make peace between the "United States & the Indian Nations, who had taken part with the "King, for this purpose commissioners were appointed who sent "Messages to all those Indian Nations inviting them to come & "make peace." And after reciting the periods at which you say treaties were held at Fort Stanwix, Fort McIntosh, & Miami all which Treaties, according to your own acknowledgement were for the sole purpose of *making peace*; you then say

BROTHERS,

"The Commissioners who conducted these treaties in behalf of the United States sent the papers containing them to the General Council of the States, who supposing them satisfactory to the Nations treated with proceeded to *dispose of the Lands thereby ceded.*" This is telling us plainly, what we always understood to be the case and it agrees with the declarations of those few, who attended these treaties—vizt, that they went to meet your Commissioners to *make peace* but through fear were obliged to sign any paper that was laid before them; and it has since appeared, that deeds of concession were signed by them instead of Treaties of Peace.

BROTHERS,

You then say, "after some time it appeared that a number of "people in your nations were dissatisfied with the Treaties of Fort "McIntosh and Miami; therefore the Council of the United States "appointed Governor St. Clair their Commissioner with full power "for the purpose of removing all causes of controversy relating to "trade & settling boundaries between the Indian Nations in the "Northern department of the United States. He accordingly sent "Messages inviting all the Nations concerned to meet him at a "Council fire he kindled at the falls of Muskingum. While he was "waiting for them some mischief happened at that place & the fire "was put out. So he kindled a Council fire at Fort Harmar, where "near six hundred Indians of different Nations attended. The six "nations then renewed & confirmed the Treaty of Fort Stanwix, & "the Wyandots & Delawares renewed and confirmed the Treaty at

"Fort McIntosh. Some Ottawas Chippawas, Pottawatamies & Sacs "were also parties to the Treaty of Fort Harmar."

Now Brothers these are your words: & it is necessary for us to make a short reply to them.

BROTHERS,

A general Council of all the Indian Confederacy, was held as you well know in the fall of the year 1788 at this place: and that General Council was invited by your commissioner Governor St Clair to meet him at the falls of Muskingum for the purpose of holding a Treaty with regard to the Lands mentioned to you to have been ceded by the Treaties of Fort Stanwix & McIntosh.

BROTHERS,

We are in possession of the Speeches & Letters which passed on that occasion, between those deputed by us the confederate Indians & Governor St Clair the Commissioner of the United States. These papers prove, that your said Commissioners in the beginning of the year 1789, after having been informed by the General Council of the preceding fall, that no bargain or sale of any part of these Indian Lands would be considered as valid or binding, unless agreed to by a General Council, nevertheless persisted in collecting together a few chiefs of two or three Nations only, & with them held a treaty for the cession of an immense Country, in which they were no more interested, than as a small branch of the General Confederacy and who were in no manner authorized to make any grant or cession whatever.

BROTHERS,

How then was it possible for you to expect to enjoy peace & quietly to hold these Lands. When your Commissioner was informed, long before he held the Treaty of Fort Harmar, that the consent of a General Council was absolutely necessary to convey any part of these Lands, to the United States. The part of these Lands, which the United States now wish us to relinquish and which you say are settled, have been sold by the United States *since that time.*

BROTHERS,

You say the United States wish to have confirmed all the Lands ceded to them by the "Treaty of Fort Harmar, and also a small tract "at the Rapids of the Ohio, claimed by General Clark for the use of "himself & his Warriors: And in consideration thereof, the United "States would give such a large sum in money or goods as was never "given at one time for any quantity of Indian Lands, since the White

"People first set their feet on this Island. And because these Lands "did every year furnish you with Skins & Furs with which you "bought Clothing & other necessaries. The United States will now "furnish the like constant supplies, and, therefore besides the great "sum to be delivered at once, they will every year deliver you a "large quantity of such goods as are best fitted to the wants of "yourselves your Women and Children."

Brothers,

Money—to us is of no value, and to most of us unknown, and as no consideration whatever, can induce us to sell the Lands on which we get sustenance for our women & children, we hope we may be allowed to point out a mode by which your settlers may be easily removed & peace thereby obtained.

Brothers,

We know that these Settlers are poor, or they would never have ventured to live in a country which has been in continual trouble ever since they crossed the Ohio. Divide therefore this large sum of money which you have offered to us, among these people, give to each also a proportion of what you say, you would give us annually over & above this very large sum of money, and we are persuaded they would most readily accept of it, in lieu of the Lands you sold to them. If you add also the great sums you must expend in raising & paying armies, with a view to force us to yield you our Country you will certainly have more than sufficient for the purposes of repaying these settlers for all their labour and their improvements.

Brothers,

You have talked to us about concessions. It appears strange, that you should expect any from us, who have only been defending our just rights, against your invasions: We want peace: Restore to us our Country and we shall be Enemies no longer.

Brothers,

You make one concession to us by offering us your money, and another by having agreed to do us justice, after having long & injuriously withheld it: We mean in the acknowledgement you have now made, that the King of England never did, nor ever had a right to give you our Country by the Treaty of Peace. And you want to make this act of common justice a great part of your concession and seem to expect that because you have at last

acknowledged our independance, we should for such a favor surrender to you our Country.

BROTHERS,

You have talked also a great deal about pre-emption and your exclusive right to purchase Indian Lands, as ceded to you by the King at the Treaty of Peace.

BROTHERS,

We never made any agreement with the King nor with any other Nation that we would give to either the exclusive right of purchasing our Lands: And we declare to you tho' we consider ourselves free to make any bargain or concession of Lands, whenever & to whomsoever we please. If the White People, as you say, made a treaty, that none of them but the King should purchase of us and that he has given that right to the United States "it is an affair which concerns you & him & not us: we have never parted with such a power.

BROTHERS,

At our General Council held at the Glaize last fall we agreed to meet Commissioners from the United States, for the purpose of restoring peace, provided they consented to acknowledge & confirm our boundary line to be the Ohio, and we determined not to meet you untill you gave us satisfaction on that point. That is the reason we have never met.

We desire you to consider Brothers, that our only demand is the peaceable possession of our once great country. Look back & view the Lands from whence we have been given, to this Spot. We can retreat no further because the Country behind hardly affords food for its present Inhabitants; and we have therefore resolved to leave our bones, in this small place to which we are now confined.

BROTHERS,

We shall be persuaded that you mean to do us justice if you agree, that the Ohio shall remain the boundary line between us; if you will not consent thereto, our meeting will be altogether unnecessary. This is the great point which we hoped would have been explained, before you left your homes, as our message last fall was principally directed to obtain that information.

Done in General Council at the foot of the Miamis Rapids the 13th day of August 1793.

Nations.	Marks.
Wyandots	Bear
Seven Nations of Canada	Turtle
Delawares	Turtle
Shawanese	Wolfe
Miamis	Turtle
Ottawas	Sturgeon
Chippewas	Crane
Senecas of the Glaize	Turtle
Potawatamies	Blackfish
Conroys	Turkey
Munseys	Turkey
Nantikokes	Turtle
Mohickens	Turkey
Messasagues	Eagle
Creeks	Bear
Cherokees	Elk

Sent with strings of black and white Wampum.

Endorsed: 3.
In Lord Dorchester's to Mr. Dundas.
No. 2 of the 25 Oct. 1793.

[Q 66, p 190]

COMMISSIONERS OF THE UNITED STATES TO THE CHIEFS OF THE INDIAN NATIONS.

To the Chiefs & Warriors of the Indian Nations, assembled at the foot of the Miamis Rapids.

BROTHERS,

We have just received your answer dated the 13th Instant to our Speech of the 31st of last month which we delivered to Your Deputies at this place. You say it was interpreted to all your Nations; and we presume it was fully understood. We therein explicitly declared to you, that it was now impossible to make the River Ohio the boundary between your Lands & the Lands of the United States. Your answer amounts to a declaration that you will agree to no other boundary but the Ohio. The negociation is therefore at an end.

We sincerely regret that peace is not the result, but knowing the upright and liberal views of the United States, which as far as you gave us opportunity, we have explained to you, we trust that impartial judges will not attribute the continuance of war to them.

Done at Captain Elliots at the mouth of the Detroit River, the Sixteenth day of August 1793.

B. Lincoln,
Beverley Randolph,
Timothy Pickering,
} Commissioners of the United States.

Endorsed: 4.
In Lord Dorchester's to Mr. Dundas.
No. 2, of the 25 Oct. 1793.
[Q 66, p 198]

COMMISSIONERS OF THE UNITED STATES TO THE CHIEFS OF THE SIX NATIONS.

To the Chiefs of the Six Nations

Brothers,

Two Runners were sent by us this week with a Message dated the 14th of this month to the Indian Nations assembled at the Rapids of the Miamis, our instructions to the Runners were to inform you, that they had such a message from us, and to request you to assemble the Chiefs of the other Nations, and then deliver it to you altogether, from the report of the Runners we are apprehensive that they mistook our orders & that our message has not been communicated to you, we therefore send a copy of it *No. 1.* We at the same time sent a letter to Colonel McKee of which also we enclose a copy *No. 2.*

Brothers,

Our Runners returned hither this evening, but a few hours before their arrival, two Wyandot Runners arrived here with a written answer *No. 3* to our Speech of the 31st of last month, insisting upon the Ohio as a boundary between the Indian Lands & those of the United States, and as we had already explicitly declared that we could not make the Ohio the boundary the business of course was at an end, however we delivered a short speech in writing to the same Runners who sett off this evening to return to the Council at the Rapids, we enclose a copy of it also *No. 4.*

Brothers,

Being desirous that you should be fully informed of these transactions, we have sent you copies thereof, which you may not otherwise obtain.

Brothers,

We came hither with a most sincere desire to make a peace, that would be beneficial to the Indians as well as to the United

States, and had such a peace been accomplished, we felt a confidence that the justice & humanity of the United States, according to the present views of Indian affairs, would not only have continued, but extended their benificence to the Indian Nations and as far as it depended upon them would have rendered the Peace as lasting as the Hills, and we should have been extremely happy in laying the foundation of so much good. We have now only to return home, and report our proceedings to the President of the United States. We shall sail with the first fair wind for Fort Erie.

B. LINCOLN,
BEVERLEY RANDOLPH,
TIMOTHY PICKERING,
} Commissioners of the United States.

MOUTH OF THE DETROIT RIVER,
August 16th 1793.

Endorsed: 9.
In Lord Dorchester's to Mr. Dundas.
No. 2, of 25 Oct. 1793.

[Q 66, p 213]

ACCOUNT.

Account of Flour received in Upper Canada, for the supply of His Majesty's Forces, which had been engaged under the sanction of His Excellency Colonel Simcoe, previous to the receipt of advices respecting the new mode established by the Right Honorable the Board of Treasury:

Place	From whom	Quantity Pounds of Flour		In what manner received.	Terms pr. Cent Currency		Remarks.
Detroit	James Abbot & Son	12,246	70,915	In bags	19s	lbs p.' 108	These prices were established at Quebec last year.
	Ant. Dufresne	18,047		ditto	19s		
	W. & D. Robertson	15,649		In barrels	20s		
	Pierre Vaudreuil	1,306		In bags	19s		
	Monsr. Duffaux	6,877		ditto	19s		
	Mathew Dalson	6,584		In barrels	20s		
	Joseph Barrel	2,953		ditto	20s		
	ditto	4,018		In bags	19s		
	Ant Dufresne	3,235		ditto	19s		

QUEBEC, 20th August 1793.

JOHN CRAIGIE.
Commry General.

N. B. A further quantity of 8,430 lbs. Flour @ 19s pr. 108 lbs. received at Detroit, but not included in the accounts sanctioned by His Excellency Colonel Simcoe, having been by mistake considered as settled for under the former contract.

J. C.

[Q 281–1, p 63]

COL. A. MC KEE TO LT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE.

FOOT OF THE RAPIDS, 22d August 1793.

SIR,

Our expectations of seeing a peace accomplished between the United States and the Indians Americans are disappointed; and the Commissioners departed immediately on receiving the Speech of the Confederacy (marked C) which states that a meeting would be altogether unnecessary, unless they agreed to continue the Ohio as the boundary line between the two parties.

I have now the honor to enclose copies of the various speeches &c which have passed from one to the other since I last wrote to Your Excellency.

The Six Nations from below dissented from the other nations on the subject of the Boundary, and wanted the Confederacy to give up the Lands to the United States on the east side of the east branch of the Muskingum, as far to the Northward as the ponds near the carrying place to Gayahoga; and from thence in an easterly direction to Venango, as had been formerly offered. But the other nations would not consent to it. All my endeavours were directed to accomplish an union on that point; and I did not expect it would be difficult, as they had heretofore agreed to make peace on these terms.

But whether from a jealousy of the Six Nations who are supposed by the others to be attached to the United States; or from a conviction that it would be wrong to make such an offer before the Commissioners agreed to the Ohio generally as the Boundary, I do not know; they however persisted in demanding that River as the Boundary without any Limitation. The Council would have been unanimous had they been so fortunate as not to have differed on this single article; tho' I doubt whether it would have made any alteration in the Resolution the Commissioners took to depart, as soon as they were informed that the Indians would not meet them untill the Boundary should be ascertained.

Mr. Talbot, who will have the honor of delivering this, is able to inform Your Excellency of every particular which has passed especially of the attempts which were made by the Six Nations to bring the Commissioners to a Council fire on this River, even before the Confederacy deliberated on an answer to a Speech (marked B) and their attempts also to divide the Nations by holding private Councils with some of the Lake Indians; and their subsequent behaviour in withdrawing themselves to a camp about a dozen miles below, where they said they proposed to meet the Commissioners.

The numerous Emissaries which have been sent to this place, with a view (as the Indians suppose) to divide the Nations, was an additional Inducement to the Confederacy to resolve that they would not meet the Commissioners until the Boundary, which had been agreed to last Fall at a General Council (vizt the Ohio) should be first assented to by them.

The acknowledgement which the United States have at length made, that the Indian Nations possess the property or right of the soil of all Indian lands, has convinced the Nations of the falsities, long propagated, that Great Britain has given away their Country at the Treaty of Peace, and left them in a much worse condition than they were before the war.

Those Nations who have not already sold their possessions will now enjoy without dispute all the lands belonging to them respectively; and these lands will form an extensive Barrier between the British and American Territory.

However conscious I may be of having used no improper influence in the Councils of the Confederacy, so as to prevent the attainment of peace, which I again assure Your Excellency would have afforded me a most sensible gratification; I nevertheless expect from the malevolent, disappointed and ill disposed to be blamed for the opinions which the Indians have adopted and for their Resolution which put an end to the negotiation, I shall not, however lament on account of their animadversions while I continue to be honored with Your Excellency's approbation of my conduct.

With the greatest Respect, I have the honor to be

Your Excellency's &c.

His Excellency Governor Simcoe. A. McKee.

Endorsed:

A. McKee, Esqr. to His Excellency Lt. Govr. Simcoe.
Foot of the Rapids, 22d August 1793.
In Lt. Govr. Simcoe's No. 18 of the 20th Sept. 1793. (7)

INDIAN SPEECH.

Speech of the Chiefs of the Western Nations in behalf of the Indian American Confederacy.

To His Excellency Governor Simcoe.

Spoken by Captain Johnny a Shawanese.

FATHER,

I now hold in my hand the Belt which accompanied your Speech in answer to what was sent you from the Glaize last fall.

FATHER,

In that Speech you told us, that it would always give you pleasure to afford us all the assistance in your power, in promoting peace on just and equitable terms. You also promised us, Father, to send us such writings as would assert our just claims; & provisions for our support, during the Councils to be held, for effecting a peace upon a just & solid foundation.

FATHER,

Your promises to us have been faithfully complied with, and we thank you from our hearts for your great goodness to us.

FATHER,

Always considering that your Heart is placed in the center of the Indian Confederacy, we must expect, that our great dependance is still on you.

FATHER,

The business here is now over, and no blame can rest on us, that the Peace of the Country is not restored. You have been informed that the terms on which we proposed to meet Commissioners from the United States, were the restoration of our Country & the Ohio for the boundary. We were always in hopes that the Commissioners had come to meet us, with a determination to make peace and to be reasonable with us, in which case that desirable end would have been accomplished. But they insisted on keeping possession of almost our whole Country, and offered us money, which is useless to us, in payment. We have proposed peace to them three times, & have at last been told, they would not consent to our proposal, so that you must be sensible, Father, the fault is not ours as we required nothing of them but our just right & peace with the United States.

FATHER,

We expect now to be forced again to defend ourselves & our country. And we look up to the Great God who is a Witness to all that passes here, for his pity & his help. We need not we hope, again repeat, the great reliance we have on you for your advice & assistance; and altho' many have united themselves with us at this Council fire, yet we can depend on nothing, so certainly as your protection & friendship; of this Father you may be well assured that at no former period have we stood in so much need of both.

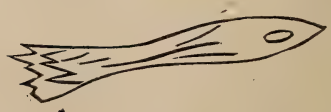
J. J. S.

Wyandots

Delawares

Shawanese

Miamis

Ottawas 

Mingoes

Cherokees

Munsies

With belt of White Wampum.

Endorsed: 6.
In Lord Dorchester's to Mr. Dundas of the 25 Oct. 1793.

[Q 66, p 203]

LT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE TO GEORGE HAMMOND.

York (late Toronto), Upper Canada, August 24th 1793.

Sir,

Having lately done myself the honor of stating to Your Excellency my serious apprehensions, that from the Indisposition of the parties, the present unhappy war between the American Indians, and the United States would not be terminated by amicable treaty at the present meeting, held for that purpose at Sandusky. I can only lament, that my apprehensions by late circumstances have been corroborated, and that the Deputation of the Indian Nations which met the Commissioners at Niagara have been arraigned by their Constituents as not having fully and explicitly demanded of the Commissioners of the United States whether they were impowered to establish the Ohio as the Frontier Line, or not? Your Excellency will see by the enclosed papers,* that the Indian meeting have sent another Deputation to the Commissioners, now at the mouth of the Detroit River, to demand from them an explanation on this point.

It is unnecessary for me to point out to Your Excellency, who are so well acquainted with the dispassionate and dignified conduct

* Not enclosed.

that has originated from the wisdom of His Majesty's Councils towards the United States ever since the peace of 1783, that the same tenor has been uniformly preserved by His Majesty's Governors in this Country, and that in the midst of difficulties, they have hitherto been able to maintain inviolably a neutrality between the native Indians, and the American States—but, Sir, It appears to me, to be proper to state to you a detail of those difficulties, which seem to increase upon this Government and which may ultimately force it into the most serious and alarming situation. I scarcely think it necessary to represent to Your Excellency, that of the three Branches into which the Fur Trade of this Province is divided, The *Detroit*, *Michillimakinac* and *North West*, that the former is totally ruined by the subsisting hostilities, and that in their progress the Indians of Michillimackinac having acceded to the Confederacy, that trade also is sensibly on the decline, because however important it may be to the Commercial welfare of this province that the Indian Nations should carry on their Hunts, and make their returns in peace and quietness, the continuation of hostilities threaten much more unfavorable occurrences than the loss or suspension of these branches of trade, and the jealousy of the Indian may ripen into an open attack on the Inhabitants under my Government.

It may be necessary to recapitulate to Your Excellency such circumstances as have happened since the peace of 1783, that evince the temper and disposition with which the Indian Nations received that event, and the construction which they themselves placed upon its articles, together with such inflammatory and unjustifiable attempts as have been made by the Servants of the United States to confirm their jealousy of the conduct of the British Nation into resentment for its supposed perfidy, and contempt of its imbecility.

The instant that General Haldimand received the information of the peace, He stated to His Majesty's Ministers his fears that the Indians would misapprehend it, and consider themselves as abandoned.

In May 1783 General McLean who then commanded at Niagara held a conference with the Indians to offer his good offices, and to assure them of the King's regard and friendship; The Indians expressly told him, that they were free people, allies not subjects to the King of England; that He had no right to grant their lands nor would they submit to it; in particular, they insisted that the King had no right to give away Forts built in the Heart of their Country, without consulting them.

No admission of principles so just in themselves, and which are expressly provided for, in the treaty of peace, which intimates only that Great Britain should withdraw her garrisons from the posts could erase that jealousy which the public offers of Baron Steuben to purchase the Military Stores and provisions of the posts, and the votes of some of the States and ultimately of Congress, to levy Troops for the purpose of taking possession of them, had raised to its utmost pitch—a general Confederacy was set on foot by the Six Nations and Western Indians for the purpose of their own Security, and *Brant* did not hesitate to avow that the intent was to attack either the British or the subjects of the United States which ever should infringe upon their Rights.

This Confederacy of the Indian Nations which had been so strongly inculcated by Sir William Johnson after the Indian War that succeeded to the peace of 1763, as the true means of embracing all the claims of the several Nations, whether as separate or joint proprietors of the Indian Country, and of laying thereby a solid foundation for just and permanent peace has acted upon similar principles and uniformly denied the validity of any treaties that should dispose of their Lands, without the consent of the General Council.

The United States having failed in performing the articles of the Treaty of peace, the Western Posts have not been surrendered to them; This circumstance has operated so far favorably for the Interests of the King's subjects, that they have been left unmolested in the possession of those farms and settlements which if the posts had been evacuated it is most probable, that the Indian Nations would not have allowed them to have established or extended, and the British North West Trade, it should seem, must have failed as it could not have supported the expence of drawing provisions from the then existing British Settlements.

The Government of the United States upon the peace, seem to have thrown off all appearance of moderation and justice in respect to the Indian Nations, the division of the Country into provinces was among their first public Acts; The extirpation of the Indians, was their philosophical language; and the sale of their lands was held forth as the avowed foundation of their national wealth.

Among the Indian Nations there were several Natives, and more of adopted white men, who could fully deduce the consequences resulting from these positions, and forcibly explain them at their

Councils; but there seems to have been but little necessity for such mediums; or the pretended influence of Great Britain; a general war has been the consequence of the claims of the Congress, and of the self defence of the Indian Confederacy.

The Language of the *Government* of the United States to the Indian Nations, as held by Governor St Clair at Fort Harmar in January 1789 was "That after a long struggle between the United "States and Great Britain in which the Indians joined the latter, "the United States got the better, and that Great Britain asked for "peace, and gave up the Indian Lands as part of the price."

This language was ably refuted by the Indians. Your Excellency is in possession of the Arguments of both parties.

The Successes of the Indians against Generals Harmar and Sinclair seemed to prepare a way for peace, and Joseph Brant in hopes of finding means to accomplish upon just terms what He has always considered as a most desirable end, and avowed as his opinion, went to Philadelphia in 1792 for this very purpose—

I enclose* to Your Excellency his letter to Colonel McKee on the subject, in which it appears that he continues under the impression, which the peace of 1783 had made on the minds of the Indians that the conduct of Great Britain in respect to them had been unjustifiable.

The recent victory over Sinclair,* has occasioned a considerable alteration in the language of the United States; the ground of conquest as held forth by Governor Sinclair, and that of any right from his Majesty having ceded the Indian Territory, is totally abandoned—but the mutual Treaties under the auspices of Mr. Sinclair are referred to, as the just foundations of the present claims of the United States.

The Indian Nations have always looked up to the King for protection, they have uniformly affirmed that the language of the States to them has been "that the King has ceded the Country;" they have from time to time brought in pictures and emblems at once scurrilous and disrespectful representing the superiority which the United States has obtained over the King; and tho' in the answer of Lord Dorchester to the Indians, it may have been prudently said "these must have originated from ill informed Individuals" yet as the Indians are fully acquainted from whom they have received such presents, they cannot be persuaded to attribute it to others, than the Governmental Officers of the United States;—and from hence they deduce fresh sources

* Not enclosed.

of jealousy against Great Britain in regard to the reality of her cession of their Country, and are the more inclined to believe the exaggerated accounts of her Imbecillity.

Your Excellency is master of the strong and expressive language in which they have called upon me to attend their Treaty, and you are fully acquainted with every step that has been taken, to give them that assistance, to which they have a just claim, and which we have a right to bestow, without violating that strict neutrality, which is due to our present situation with the United States, and involving the dignity of His Majesty's Government.

But I am sorry to observe that although such conduct may have been most proper in its objects, and that the means to accomplish it have been such as without doubt, must have done away from the minds of the people of the United States any impression whatsoever of an unfavorable disposition in this Government to the expected peace, I am sorry to observe that neither personal explanation or an intermediate one through their Agents, has been able to satisfy the minds of the Indian Nations that such conduct has been sufficiently friendly and attentive to their Interests and they have said, "that although the United States have not agreed that the Representation of the King their Father should attend the Treaty, they do not see why he should refuse to be present to assist them, the King's faithful allies, with his advice at their General Council." These serious Inconveniences in the Commercial view of this unfortunate war (the loss or material Injury of the Detroit and Michillimackinac branches of Commerce) and the suspicions which have been uniformly entertained by the Indian Nations of the neglect of the King's Government, tho' every exertion has been made use of to allay it, (and circumstances have hitherto proved favorable to such an endeavour) tend to one point, our interest in an immediate pacification, as they prove the great evils and distress which His Majesty's Province at present suffers by the continuation of hostilities, but it is easily demonstrated that their prolongation may be eventually productive of such open enmity from the Indians as involve it in difficulties beyond the power of remedy or calculation:—

In case that victory shall declare for the Indian Confederacy, & that it shall be confirmed in that strength which its present extension throughout the continent seems to promise, whatever offence may have been taken against the strict neutrallity of Great Britain as we term it, as it is asserted by the Indians, our abandoning our Indian Allies at the treaty of peace, and leaving them to

struggle by themselves, in a contest brought upon them as Governor Sinclair's speech declares, by their attachment to Great Britain, and terminated by her cession of their Lands as part of the price of peace, such an offence will be heightened and improved in the minds of the Indian Nations by the consciousness of recent superiority, and every effort to conciliate their alienated minds will bear with it the appearance of pusillanimity, which invites attack; the usual presents will be received without kindness, and new and trivial demands will be made upon every occasion, till the first refusal of any extravagant request, will be interpreted as injury, will be avenged by predatory excursions, that must terminate in an open war.

On the other side, should Fortune side with the armies of the United States, the Indian Tribes have been advised and probably have determined to fly to the British Fortresses for protection, or passing over to the British Territory within its Treaty Line, will from thence continue a perpetual warfare, that in either case sooner or later must involve this Government with the United States.

But should it be thought politick and prudent in case of this, the uttermost distress of the Indian Nations, to refuse them shelter in his Majesty's Dominions, or the protection of His Fortresses, what will be the consequences? The Nation, the Tribe, I had almost said the Individuals that could not withstand the powerful and well arranged army of the United States, can in an instant destroy the Settlements and massacre the unfortunate Inhabitants of Upper Canada; and the untutored savage in the first impulse of his resentment; and the last deliberation of his Council, would reconcile such an attempt to his general mode of reasoning, and to which opportunity and necessity would powerfully urge him, without the being prompted by the Indian or White Emissaries of the United States; who in any case are a ready and formidable engine, fully prepared to turn the views of the Indians, to their own purposes, and gradually to alienate their minds from the King their Father, and to dispose them to Hostility against his subjects.

The contemplation of the papers herewith transmitted, in which neither Captain Brant or Col. McKee seem to have hopes of an amicable conclusion of the present treaty have naturally disposed my mind to reflect on the baneful consequences should Hostilities recommence on the Frontiers of His Majesty's Dominions; there are many objects, and Interests of great moment, that I could detail to Your Excellency, which are involved in such a calamity, but

which are all so inferior in magnitude to what is to be apprehended from an Indian war on the one hand; and from giving any just cause of offense on the other to the United States, that, I desist from dwelling upon them.

I cannot however conclude without saying, that I should have been most happy had the Government of the United States coincided with the Indian request, and that you could have obtained his Majesty's gracious permission to have been the Mediator in his name at the present Treaty.

The weight and authority of Your Excellency would have pointed out, to the Indian, that justice, which He may not be disposed to recognize when introduced by the Representative of his enemies; and at the same time the purity of our National Character in Your Excellency's hands would have been a pledge to the United States of our zealous anxiety to establish a peace upon permanent principles of equity. It must also at this juncture, I am persuaded have been a personal gratification to Your Excellency, to have rendered such service as might have been in your power to the Government of the United States, whose recent, manly and impartial conduct cannot but have afforded you a considerable degree of satisfaction.

I have the honor to be, with great Regard,

Sir Your Excellency's &c,

J. Graves Simcoe.

His Excellency George Hammond, &c.

Endorsed:

In Lt. Govr. Simcoe's No. 18 of the 20th Sept. 1793. (6)

[Q 279-2, p 525]

CAPT. JOSEPH BRANT TO LT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE.

Niagara, 2d September 1793.

Sir,

I arrived here last evening from Detroit and am extremely sorry that our business to the westward did not terminate in a peace as was by many of us wished for, as to the consequences, I am rather apprehensive, from the great divisions amongst us, unanimity by no means prevailing, without which the Indians it cannot be expected will do much, in my opinion the advice of some whites was too much attended to, but perhaps it may be for the best. I am still in hopes that an honorable peace may be obtained, and

the boundary fixed to the satisfaction of the Indians in general. The Western Nations being for the line as fixed by Sir William Johnson, the Six Nations and Lake Indians having before mentioned the Muskingum.

A Treaty is to be held at Buffaloe Creek as soon as the Indians all arrive; was it possible I should have been extremely happy in having consulted with your Excellency, on the present situation of our affairs, but time I am afraid will not admit of it. I shall not trouble you with any detail of our proceedings as Mr. Sheehan, I dare say, will make his report to you, as soon as He arrives. The result of the Treaty to be held shall be made known to Your Excellency as soon as it is over.

I have the honor to be

Your Excellency's &c

His Excellency Lt. Govr. Simcoe. JOS. BRANT.

Endorsed:

Captain Joseph Brant to His Excellency Lt. Governor Simcoe, dated Niagara, September 2d 1793. In Lt. Govr. Simcoe's No. 18 of the 20th Sept. 1793. (4)

[Q 279–2, p 520]

State of the Troops in North America Commanded by The Rt Honble Guy Lord Dorchester, September 1793.

Provinces	Regiments	Officers Present											Serjeants	Drummers	Rank & File	Officers Commanding
		Commissioned						Staff								
		Colonels	Lt Colonels	Majors	Captains	Lients	Ensigns	Captains	Adjutants	Q. Mrs.	Surgeons.	Mates				
		----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	---	----------
		----	----	----	----	--	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----------
								Michilimackinac								
Upper Canada	24th	----	----	----	1	1	2	----	----	----	----	1	2	1	53	Captain Doyle
								Detroit								
	24th	----	1	1	5	4	5	----	1	----	1	----	17	9	315	Lt. Col. England
	Total	----	1	1	6	5	7	----	1	----	1	1	19	10	368	
		----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	---------- -------
		----	----	--	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	--	---	----	----	-- ----------

[Q 66, p 235[a]] DORCHESTER.

ROYAL ARTILLERY.

Provinces	Posts	Commission					Staff					Rank & File		
		Lt Colonels	Captains	Ct. Lieutenants	1st Lieuts	2d Lieuts	Adjutants	Q'Mrs.	Surgeons	Serjeants	Drummers	Doing duty	In charge of stores	Total
----------	----------	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
----------	----------	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
Upper	Michilimackinac	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	1	1	8	----	8
Canada	Detroit	----	----	1	1	----	----	----	----	1	1	28	----	28
	----------	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	--	----	----	----	----	----
	----------	----	----	----	--	----	----	----	--	----	----	----	----	----

Endorsed:
In Lord Dorchester's to Mr. Dundas.
No. 3 of the 25 Octr. 1793. F.

[Q 66, p 235[b]]

LIEUT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE TO GEORGE HAMMOND.

York (late Toronto), Sept. 8th 1793.

Sir,

As I have a favorable opportunity by Mr. Brewerton an half pay officer in the King's Service, to communicate with your Excellency, I am to transmit for your information the copies of various Papers which I have received from Colonel McKee and his information, that all Negociation between the American Indians & the United States has proved, unavailing, and that our best endeavors to promote the desirable object of Peace have been to no effect.

It will appear from Colonel McKee's letter that he endeavored to unite the Indians, and to persuade them to content themselves with the boundaries which they had formerly demanded; but to no effect, as the Western Indians *insisted* upon their requisition, as made in the Speech, which I transmitted to Your Excellency the last year, that the Ohio should be the Boundary.

Colonel McKee complains and as I apprehend with great reason of the Six Nations; I enclose to Your Excellency a letter from Captain Brant by which it appears that those Tribes are at this moment in Council, and He says, he has "still hopes that an honorable Peace may be effected" Captain Brant always was of opinion

that the lesser boundary of the Ohio & Muskingum should be adopted, but that the greater one was settled by Sir William Johnson should be the preliminary stipulation. On my asking him "how such information should be conveyed to the Commissioners" he told me "He did not know." It is scarcely to be hoped that the Western Indians who are disposed to consider this Chief as a Traitor will comply with any Councils held under his auspices. His character is very problematical, his conduct has been very unsatisfactory to Colonel McKee—added, to these difficulties on the part of the Indian Nations, the Commissioners told me that the Muskingum Boundary would never be consented to.

The horrors of an Indian War, need no explanation or comment, & I am truly distressed that they are so likely to be continued, should the Indians prove successful in the next rencounter, it is to be hoped that the Government of the United States may not for a shadow sacrifice the substance but be anxious for the King's mediation, which can alone, I am *persuaded*, unite the Indian Nations and effect that termination of hostilities, which if they be suffered to continue must eventually involve this Colony in the most serious calamities.

Colonel McKee did not deliver this Speech to the Indian Nations which I left to his discretion, as the Treaty was not concluded; but I am happy I wrote it as Your Excellency will perceive in it a general coincidence with the sentiments of the Commissioners of the United States, and in particular, a clear statement that by the Treaty with the United States His Majesty precluded his subjects from colonizing beyond the boundary stipulated, altho with the consent of the Indian Nations & this I thought proper to explain, as I understand it has been thrown out in popular publications, that the Indian War was fomented by the British that they might avail themselves of the event, and colonize towards the Ohio.

I enclose for Your Excellency's perusal the copy of a Report of the officer commanding at Oswego, by which you will see that the People in that Country are ripening into a temper which may be productive of the most serious disputes, an armed Party lately passed that Post in the night with contraband goods, predetermined to seize the Preventive officer, and to imprison him should he stop their boat. I am building a Row Boat to carry a gun, to endeavour, by terror, to prevent such gross insults, and I shall direct the officer commanding not to pursue Deserters beyond certain Bounds; but these arrangements will be at best, merely palliatives, and the

settlements making in the vicinity of the King's post must be productive of such hostilities as the officer agreeably to his Instructions, cannot but consider as force, and *repell by force*, unless some speedy arrangement shall take place, either by the King's troops being withdrawn from the Posts, in consequence of a general Treaty, or that during the suspence of the negociation, the Government of New York shall exert its power to restrain the lawless proceedings of its frontier Subjects.

I cannot but wish that some arrangement on this subject might be made between Your Excellency & the Government of the United States; any trifling complaints if such may have arisen on our parts, (but which I have neither heard of or believe) may be easily remedied and guarded against, as the post is purely military, and as such is the object of national consideration, but by no means ought to become subject to Insults from any Individual which may lead to the most serious consequences.

I had the pleasure of receiving your letter by Colonel Ogden, who has proceeded to Quebec.

Lieut Brewerton the bearer of this dispatch is the son of a late Provincial Colonel, to whose family, the Council of this Province, have granted the customary Lands. The young man seems well behaved, & means to settle in Upper Canada.

I have the honor to be
Sir with great regard
Your Excellency's &c.
J. G. Simcoe.

His Excellency George Hammond, &c.

Endorsed: 8.
In Lord Dorchester's to Mr. Dundas. No. 2 of the 25 Octr. 1793.

[Q 66, p 208]

LETTER FROM LIEUT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE.

[No. 18.]

York, Upper Canada, September 20th 1793.

Sir,

The Shipping on Lake Erie winter at Detroit, they also are frozen up, and unprotected in any shape, from any attempt which may be made against them.

The people of the United States being bent on the occupation of Presqu' Isle, I beg to propose without loss of time, that an Establishment may take place at *Long Point*, and I conceive from Information of the Surveyor, that it may be practicable to erect a sufficient work on the Island mark'd in the plan A to protect the shipping in which case I hesitate not in recommending that they be transferred to that Harbour, should I discover (as I hope if I can procure the Indians to accompany me at this season) the Harbour on Lake Huron, I shall not fail to have a survey, transmitted to you, Sir, the ensuing summer.

I must observe in a general view, of the maritime advantages of these Ports, that Naval artificers in case of necessity may be easily transferred from one Lake to the other; It not being more than six days Journey from Long Point to York—and from thence to Lake Huron.

Added to political considerations, I dare avow, that Colonel McKee's additional salary would not only be properly Oconomy, but be justly bestowed as I believe that gentleman has sacrificed, as it is generally affirmed, much of his private fortune in an office that his present sallary could not support; otherwise he must have had recourse to public peculation which I have not the smallest reason to suspect.

The consequence of this arrangement would I am persuaded be materially felt, and a system might be adopted which gradually may render the Indian Presents far less burthensome, and more beneficial than they are at present to Great Britain.

In this detail of the present situation of Indian Affairs, I have also in view to enforce the propriety of those Reasons which so strongly possess me, that it is requisite for the *safety & security* of the Province to occupy the different Posts I have intimated, *York, Long Point* and *London*, to separate and to command the Indian Nations. The ready access which the former of these Posts has to Lake Huron, and from thence to the mouth of the French River, by which all the north west Trade from Montreal passes into Lake Huron may probably be of great military importance; and there is little doubt, but the produce of the Lands on this communication (and on the River Thames) in case of *Detroit* being ceded to the United States, will in no distant period be sufficient

to supply the North West Trade, with such provisions as it may want, and which the Merchants concerned in that Trade constantly represent as the principal utility, as far as they are concerned, of our retaining possession of *Detroit*. The extent of this Settlement reaching to the waters that fall into Lake Huron, will form a strong Barrier, should the Messissagua Nation (of which at present there is no appearance) be hostile to the British Interests.

Long Point is the favorite object of all descriptions of people; Its vicinity is represented as the most desirable for settlements; and whether the restraint which it has been hitherto thought prudent to place upon its colonization seems to enhance its value, or it really possesses great advantages, there appears to be little doubt but what it will become a flourishing part of Upper Canada. The Circumstances of the Indian war have hitherto influenced the Council not to encourage the peopling of a Country, which should the Six Nations be engaged, might become the war path, to the manifest inconvenience and loss of property tho' probably not to the personal injury of the Inhabitants. Should the King's forces occupy a post there, which I am anxiously desirous of, care will be taken that the Inhabitants in its neighbourhood should be composed of Loyalists of the most determined principles, and such as may be reasonably expected to arrive by the rout of Presqu' Isle from those persons of Pennsylvania and Maryland, who at the end of the war were associated to support the cause of the King; and from whom, agents have been sent to signify the wish of many of them to remove into this Government. A strong settlement in this vicinity would effectually separate the *Mohawks*, on the Grand River from the other *Indian Nations*, and prevent what Captain Brant once intimated to me in a letter; "The Six Nations becoming a Barrier between the British and the Western Indians." But, Sir, I ever considered the Establishment of the capital at the place marked *London* on the Forks of the Thames or La Franche, as the capital, not only of Upper Canada, but as the most of all the Independant Indian Nations, & in the present situation of affairs, the extension of the settlements from it, to Burlington Bay on the one side, to Long Point and Chatham on the other, will in a short time effectually add the influence of command over all the Nations within the British Territory, as I trust the King's Benevolence, duly distributed, would preserve the foundations of affection and confidence, which a long intercourse of benefits ought, and I hope has, established.

Should this place become the capital of the Country, the facility which the main branch of the Thames gives to the access of the Indians from Lake Huron, and its other streams to those from Lake Sinclair, and the Grand River would render it extremely easy for the King's Presents to be delivered to all the Nations at a given season; such excepted, which might be mutually convenient to be issued elsewhere.

In stating for your information Sir, the system which appears to me to be the best calculated to consolidate all the advantages that may be expected from this important Colony, I am to represent to you that I cannot possibly venture to occupy the *Capital* without a competent force; and tho' in my original communication to you, Sir, and to His Majesty's Ministers, I suggested the propriety of a force adequate to these purposes, which circumstances of general consideration, I presume rendered inexpedient to be adopted; yet, as since that period, His Majesty has thought proper to augment the Establishment of his army, a sufficient force is thereby already provided to embrace the whole extent of the system which personal observation has most eminently confirmed. If, therefore, the Regiments now in Upper Canada shall be compleated early next year to their full compliment, and the arrangement in consequence of such addition left to my discretion, I shall be enabled without alteration of the present garrisons, of *Oswego, Niagara*, and *Detroit*, to occupy *London* with three hundred men; and *Long Point* and York and the necessary posts of Communication with sufficient detachments.

I need not point out to you, Sir, how far this disposition of posts is preparatory also, to the withdrawing of the King's Forces from the Barrier Forts, an event, that must take place sooner or later, if the Government of the United States hold their present language; unless it may be thought worth while to enter into a war for their preservation, the Line of Communication, I have proposed, will be of such a nature, as that the Troops of the Colony may be collected to operate wheresoever it may be thought expedient for its security, or for offence.

It is to be observed, that no military assistance whatsoever, can be expected from the Inhabitants of this Frontier in case of Indian Hostilities, and very little under existing circumstances, should there be a rupture with the United States—but whatsoever might be the assistance to be drawn from the Country, it certainly would accumulate by the appearance of a central force.

Upon the first news of the rupture with France, I determined to withdraw the Queen's Rangers from the unhealthy vicinity of Niagara where they were encamped and occupy York. I submitted to the Commander in Chief my Intentions and desired his sanction to authorize me to construct a *Block House* to defend the entrance of the Harbour, detailing to him its properties and the security it would afford to the Civil Government of the Province, at the same time stating in the Capacity of Civil Governor, that was I not obedient to his authority, I should certainly occupy and in some degree secure that post, for the residence of the Civil officers of Government; and that the only protection of the Country should not depend on such a miserable fortress as Niagara, situated within the *Line* of the United States.

As Major General Clarke was in expectation of the arrival of Lord Dorchester he was not inclined to issue any orders relative to the points which I had stated to him, but permitted me to avail myself of such assistance as I had pointed out to him might be procured from some old cannon that had been condemned, (but which might yet be of specific service) and some Cannonades to give the appearance of fortifying the Harbour.

The lateness of the Season has prevented me from building *Storehouses* to lodge the Cargo of the Scipio and other public stores, consequent to the erection of the Government, these I propose to construct in such a manner, as to serve for the defence of the Harbour; and I wish to be authorized to occupy the Post at *Long Point* in a similar method; The Posts at Bois blanc and Maisonville's Island, seem well adapted for the same species of Fortification.

I have the honor of being with the utmost Respect Sir,

Your most obt

J. G. Simcoe,

Endorsed: Upper Canada, 20th Sept. 1793.
Lt. Govr. Simcoe.
R. 23d Decr. (Seven Inclosures.)

[Q 279–2, p 488]

CAPT. JOSEPH BRANT TO JOSEPH CHEW.

Extract of a Letter from Captain Joseph Brant, to Joseph Chew—Secretary of Indian affairs, dated Niagara the 26th of Sept. 1793.

"I arrived here some time ago from the Miamis, much disappointed in my expectations & wishes as to peace, the three Nations, Shawanoes, Delawares & Twightwees, being in my opinion, too much under the guidance & influence of some white people, who have advised them to adhere to the old boundary line as fixed in the year 1768, the Six Nations and Lake Indians, much the most numerous tribes were for adhering to the Muskingum Line as offered to the Americans in the year 1788, from this division amongst us respecting the boundary it was the cause of our doing no business, we acted consistently at least I myself did with the dictates of my conscience and honor & honesty. The Shawanoes, Delewares & Twightwees carried every thing their own way & were determined not to meet the Commissioners from the United States to treat with them unless the Line they wished for should be admitted. This we the Six Nations & Lake Indians could not concur in, knowing that what they insisted on was by no means fair, this was the reason why the treaty broke up—& should those three Nations not be able to withstand the Americans (as there is little reason to suppose they will) possession will be got of their Country, and they drove back to the Mississippi unless assisted by the British (which I suppose will not be the case) the consequences then must be fatal to those Indians as time must ere long convince us."

"I am now on my way to Buffaloe Creek to attend at a Council to be held there, at which the Six Nations mean to make an offer, to the Americans, of the Muskingum as the Boundary Line, should this not be accepted of by them it may be the means of again uniting our Indian Nations & convincing us that the Americans are equally as stubborn on their part, as the Shawanoes &c are on theirs. After this Council is finished, I shall send you a copy of our Journal, with the different Speeches & other occurrences, which passed between the Indians & the Commissioners, from which you'll be able to form a more perfect opinion of the conduct of us all, & then be able to judge, whether the Six Nations have acted with propriety or not, I still hope that peace and unanimity may be brought about, and am determined that no perseverance shall be wanting on my part, to accomplish such desirable objects.

Endorsed: No. 7.

In Lord Dorchester's to Mr. Dundas. No. 2 of the 25 Oct. 1793.

[Q 66, p 206]

INDIAN COUNCIL.

Proceedings of a Council held at Buffaloe Creek 10th October 1793.
Present

Lt Col Butler Dy Agent for Indian Affairs

Israel Chapin Esqr. Superintendant of Indian Affairs for the United States, with the

Chiefs of the Six Nations.

After the usual compliments had passed Captain Brant addressed them as follows.

BROTHERS,

You and the King our Father, and you our Brothers of the United States, attend to what we have to say, we will now explain to you the material point upon which we have called you together and requested your attendance at this Council, and which has not been fully explained to you before. We wish to act openly that the world may judge of our proceedings.

BROTHERS,

It is unnecessary to repeat what passed at the Great Council at the Miamis Rapids, as you are already acquainted therewith, we shall therefore point out the cause of our parting from that meeting in the manner we did.

BROTHERS,

When the first Deputation from the Confederate Indians, met the Commissioners of the United States, every thing seemed to promise a friendly termination of the Treaty, but before their return to the Council Fire, messengers from the Creek Nations had arrived there and brought authentic information of the White People having encroached upon that part of the Confederacy. This intelligence at once gave a change to the face of our proceedings, and probably was the sole cause of the abrupt termination of the negociation for peace. Thus you see, that claims upon your lands have been, and still continue to be the cause of the war.

BROTHERS,

About five years ago we agreed upon a line of Demarkation, with the United States, which you know to be the Muskingum, and notwithstanding the various accidents that have occurred since, we will still adhere to that Boundary.

BROTHERS,

We think the United States will agree to that Line, which will shew that they act with that sincerity & justice, they always pro-

fess for the Indians. Should they agree to this, we sincerely hope that Peace will still take place, and we think that the weight of our branch of the Confederacy, will be able to accomplish Peace upon the reasonable line we have just mentioned, and we should be exceedingly sorry to find that this proposal should not be generally accepted by the Confederacy, if it is *rejected. We must involved in trouble in our own Country.

Brothers,

We will now proceed to explain the line upon which we hope peace will be made, we know that the Lands along the Ohio, are claimed by the Indians, but we propose to give up such part of these Lands, as are actually settled and improved, which settlements are to be circumscribed by a line drawn round them, and no further claims to be admitted beyond such line.

N. B. The remainder of this Boundary to be explained by General Chapin, for which purpose it is the general wish of the Six Nations, that General Chapin will himself proceed with this Speech to Congress.

A Belt, Black & White Wampum.

Endorsed: A.
In Lord Dorchester's to Mr. Dundas of the 22d Novr. 1793. No. 11.
[Q 67, p 30]

PROPOSED BOUNDARY LINE BETWEEN UNITED STATES AND AMERICAN INDIANS.

The Line proposed by the Six Nations & Lake Indians, Ottawas, Chippewas, Poutewatamies, as the Boundary between the United States and American Indians and given in public Council held at Buffaloe Creek October 10th 1793 to General Chapin to be by him transmitted to Congress.

To begin where the Ohio falls into the Mississippi, to follow the course of the Ohio to the Muskingum to ascend that River up to its most easternmost Fork to a Lake at its Head, the carrying Place between the River & the Cayahoga, & from thence to follow a direct course as marked upon Hutchin's map, till it strikes the old Pennsylvania Line proceeding easterly on that till it is intersected by a line running Southerly, to Cheneses River, following that Line to the Forks of the Cheneses River, and down the Cheneses River till it falls into Lake Ontario.

To shew the willingness of the Indian Nations to accede to a just & honorable peace they agree to accept from this Boundary

*Captain Brant, in conversation with Lt. Govr. Simcoe, explained this passage by saying, "It was meant that they must be forced to leave their country." J. G. S.

SUPERIOR
St. Mary
St George
St. Joseph
Pt Thessalon
Falls
Mississauga Bay
Pt Detour
Pt St. Vital
Manitoulin Island
Michilimackinac
White Wood
Sheboagan
Arbre Croche Village
MICHIGAN
HURON
Raisin
Boudet
CANADA
Montreal
LOWER
C. CLEUQARY
STORMONT
Au Sable
Traverse Is.
Saginaw R. & Bay
Pt. Barque
White Rock
DETROIT
R. Rouge
Miami R. & Bay
Nugent's
Sandusky R.
military roads
miles = 1 inch

Q. 280-1 P. 6

all places which are actually occupied, with a competent space for the accomodation of the present Settlers.

They expect that no Reserves as hitherto demanded be made by the United States within this Boundary such as Presqu' Isle, Sandusky, the Miaims Towns &c. &c. &c.

Captain Brant declined all further meeting unless this Boundary was agreed to, for the purpose of Negotiation.

Mr. Sheehan of the Indian Department informed Colonel Simcoe that the *Corn Planter* and *New Arrow* were the persons who pointed out this Boundary.

This Line was marked upon Hutchin's Map, the explanation of it was read to Capt. Brant who said it was just. J. G. S.

Endorsed: B.
In Lord Dorchester's to Mr. Dundas No. 11 of the 22d Novr. 1793.

[Q 67, p 30]

LT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE TO HENRY DUNDAS, SEC'Y.

[No. 19.]

SIR, UPPER CANADA, YORK, Oct. 19th 1793.

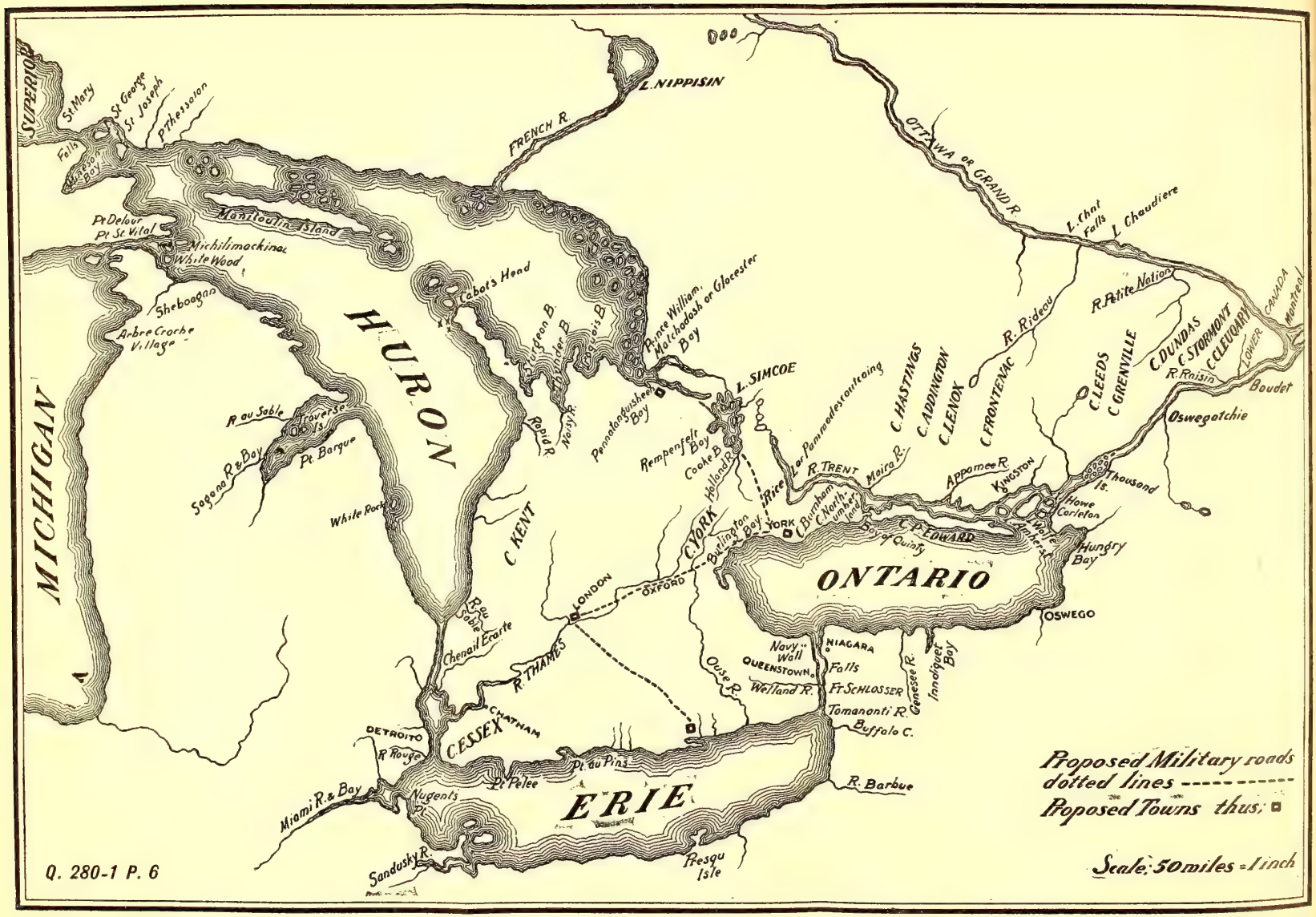
I do myself the honor of acquainting you, that I am returned from exploring the Communications between this place and Lake Huron.

The importance of this Communication is evident; The Merchant will probably supply by this Route those heavy Commodities which are necessary in the North West Trade; and this part of Upper Canada will find another vent for its flour & by rivalling the Settlements near Detroit in that article at the mart of Michilimackinac will occasion the King's Garrisons to be furnished at a cheaper rate. The Merchants & Traders have already turned their eyes to this communication & obtained Lots in the Town of York upon such a speculation, this will be greatly encreased, when it shall be fully understood that it is much more easy of access than uniform Reports and frequent Enquiries had given room to imagine.

I have the honor to be with the most perfect Respect Sir
Your most obt. & most humble Servt
The Rt. Honble Henry Dundas, J. G. SIMCOE.
One of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, &c. &c. &c.

Endorsed: Up. Canada, York, 19th Oct. 1793.
Lt. Govr. Simcoe.
R. 27 Jan. 1794, ansd. No. 19. Two Charts transmitted herewith.

[Q 280–1, p 1]



MAP OF LAND BETWEEN YORK AND LAKE HURON.

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One of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, &c. &c. &c.

Endorsed: Up. Canada, York, 19th Oct. 1793.
Lt. Govr. Simcoe.
R. 27 Jan. 1794, ansd. No. 19. Two Charts transmitted herewith.

[Q 280–1, p 1]

RETURN.

Return of the Marine Establishment in the Province of Lower and Upper Canada.

Lakes	Vessels	Present Estab			Wanted to complete to ye establishment		War Establishment		Remarks
		Tonnage	No. of officers included	No. of guns	No. of men	No. of guns	No. of men officers included	No. of guns	
Lake Champlain	Maria	128	25	8	59	6	84	14	Not in commission to replace the Maria next Spring.
	Royal Edward	147	------	------	------	------	77	12	
		275	25	8	59	6	161	26	
Lake Ontario	Onandago	100	22	6	50	6	72	12	
	Messessagua	100	22	6	50	6	72	12	
	Caldwell	80	9	2	15	4	24	6	
		280	53	14	115	16	168	30	
Lakes Erie & Huron	Ottawa	100	22	6	50	6	72	12	
	Dunmore	106	22	4	10	4	32	8	
	Chippewa	100	22	6	50	6	72	12	
	Felicity	55	11	2	5	2	16	4	
	Total	361	77	18	115	18	192	36	
	General Total	916	155	40	289	40	521	92	

N. B. The guns & ammunition to compleat the above vessels for war is lying at the several posts of St. John's, Kingston and Detroit, there is in the store here Rigging for two vessels of about 150 Tons each & Timber cut, squared, marked & numbered under cover at St. John's fit to build two vessels of the above burthen.

DORCHESTER.

QUEBEC, 24th Oct. 1793.

Endorsed: G.
In Lord Dorchester's to Mr. Dundas.
No. 3 of the 25th Octr. 1793.

[Q 66, p 236]

LORD DORCHESTER TO HENRY DUNDAS.

QUEBEC, 25th October, 1793.

SIR,

The answer given at Niagara by the Commissioners of the United States, to the Deputies of the Indian Confederacy being reported to the General Council assembled at the Falls of the Miamis on Lake Erie, did not [No 1] give satisfaction, they sent a second Deputation to the mouth of the Detroit River to prevent their further approach, and desired explicitly to know if they were authorized to continue & firmly fix on the River Ohio, as the boundary line between them & the People of the United States; [No 2] the Commissioners having replied it was impossible for them to [No 3] accede to that boundary, & the Indians persisting in their demand the negociation broke [No 4] off, & the Commissioners returned home without being admitted to a General Conference .with the Confederated Tribes at the falls of the Miamis, the consequence of which will without doubt be the immediate renewal of hostilities.

[No 5 & 6] A considerable division took place among the Confederacy, the Western Indians remaining firm in not receding from the Ohio, in its full extent and imploring our advice & assistance. while the Six Nations were for offering to carry the line up the River Muskingum by Gayahaga and Venango approaching much nearer to Lake Erie, which has occasioned a considerable dissatisfaction [No 7] between them & some reproaches; the latter are to assemble their General Council at Buffaloe Creek and will propose this Frontier Line in form, [No 8] which 'tis imagined the Western Indians will not agree to. The Commissioners it also appears have been vigilant to take advantage of these divisions [No 9] and probably will pursue that plan.

I am with much respect
& esteem Sir
Your most obedient
and most humble Servant

DORCHESTER.

The Right Honble Henry Dundas.

Endorsed: Quebec, 25th Octr. 1793.
The Right Honble Lord Dorchester.
R. 19 Decr. No. 2. (Ten Inclosures.)

[Q 66, p 174]

Schedule of the inclosures in Lord Dorchester's letter to the Right Honble Henry Dundas No 2 dated Quebec 25th October 1793.

No 1. Copy of a Message from the Indian Confederacy to the Commissioners of the United States dated in General Council at the foot of the Miamis Rapids 27th July 1793. [Published on page 570.]

2. Do of a Speech of the Commissioners of the United States to the Deputies of the Confederate Indians assembled at the foot of the Miamis rapids dated at the mouth of Detroit River the 31st July 1793. [Published on page 579.]

3 Do of a Speech of the General Confederacy to the Commissioners of the United States dated in General Council at the Foot of the Miamis Rapids 13th August 1793. [Published on page 587.]

4. Do of a message of the Commissioners of the United States to the Chiefs & Warriors of the Indian Nations, assembled at the foot of the Miamis Rapids dated at the mouth of the Detroit River 16th August 1793. [Published on page 592.]

5. Do of a Letter from Alexander McKee Esqr to Lieut Govr. Simcoe dated Foot of the Rapids 22d August 1793 [Published on page 595.]

6. Do of speech of the Chiefs of the Western Nations on behalf of the Indian American Confederacy to Lieut Govr. Simcoe. [Published on page 597.]

7. Extract of a Letter from Captain Joseph Brant to Joseph Chew, Secretary of Indian Affairs, dated Niagara the 26th Septr. 1793. [Published on page 614.]

8. Copy of a Letter from Lieut Governor Simcoe to George Hammond Esqr. &c &c dated York (late Toronto) September 8, 1793. [Published on page 607.]

No 9. Copy of a message of the Commissioners of the United States to the Chiefs of the Six Nations dated Mouth of the Detroit River August 16th 1793. [Published on page 593.]

Endorsed: Schedule.
In Lord Dorchester's No. 2 of the 25th Octr. 1793. (10)

[Q 66, p 176]

LORD DORCHESTER TO HENRY DUNDAS.

A.

SIR, QUEBEC, October 25th 1793.

My letter to Mr. Hammond contains the heads of a conversation with a very respectable gentleman from the States; a copy is enclosed & with the Inclosures B. C. D. will explain fully the nature of his complaint which though private on his part, is intimately connected with the Sovereignty of the extra Provincial territory. Besides this ostensible business, I imagine he wanted to discover how far their establishing themselves close upon the Lakes & entering upon the navigation both for commerce & war might give umbrage or be resisted by us.

They have it in contemplation to occupy the mouth of the Sodus on Lake Ontario, and also to form a Settlement at Presque Isle on Lake Erie, and if permitted will soon establish other Posts on this Lake nearer to Detroit, in order to distress the Indians and render our communication with them more difficult. This is not a new Idea, but whether from their population being now more advanced, or from our being engaged in a war with France, they may think this a favorable juncture, there seems at present a greater disposition to press forward in a hostile manner than heretofore.

Should they navigate the Lakes before our differences are arranged, disputes innumerable must arise; all those disputed points between the Powers of Europe concerning neutral Bottoms & contraband goods would immediately come forward; all our Boats & vessels with military Stores, Provisions, Clothing & Indian Presents in short, every vessel that sailed on Lake Erie or Ontario for the purposes of commerce, might be seized, according to the arguments which have already been maintained by one belligerent Power or another.

Attempts to make seizures would be resisted and hostilities on the water would probably serve as a signal for the attack of Fort Ontario which would soon be captured & thus repeated insults would render all accommodation still more difficult.

In addition to these grounds of dispute the unsettled Territorial Line, and the condition of that Country must originate many more, so that it seems indispensibly necessary either to prevent these evils by a speedy Treaty or to be prepared to resist their first attempts by such means as will leave our neighbours little hope of success.

Independant of the French Intrigue, the Canadas alone cannot stand the contest, Nova Scotia & New Brunswick can give no assistance.

In point of population I consider the King's Provinces, compared with the United State as one to fourteen.

It will require for the Canadas a reinforcement of Four or Five Thousand Infantry in the first Instance; besides Naval Stores for ten or twelve ships of about one hundred and fifty Tuns, for the Lake service; a master Builder; twenty or thirty ships Carpenters; seven or eight hundred Seamen, besides Frigates to assist in forwarding the work & in manning those vessels, and all these should arrive as early in the Spring as possible.

It may be expedient at the same time to send a corps of six thousand men to Halifax with a squadron sufficient to protect them; this Force may act offensively or defensively as occasion may require.

I am aware that this will change the present plan for carrying on the war, it will necessarily draw all the Infantry which can be spared from home to the American Service, or to attack the French Possessions out of Europe but without it I consider these provinces as incapable of making any defence provided an attack is conducted with common sense either by the Americans or by the French.

The extraordinary naval preparations for the Lakes may indeed be spared when a firm Peace is concluded with America & part of the Reinforcement required for the Canadas may be sent to Halifax, & enable us to act more powerfully against the French Possessions, combined always with a proper attention to Nova Scotia & to the River St Lawrence.

At the same time that I point out the precautions necessary to put this Country in a proper state of defence I must acknowledge that the Interests of the King's American Dominions require Peace and I think the Interests of the States require it still more, though their conduct both to us & the Indians has created many difficulties. In the natural course of things the People from the States will overspread all the country south of the Lakes, from the Atlantic to the Mississippi and beyond, the treasurers & People of Europe are already employed to forward this purpose, and it would have been still more advanced at this hour but for their own impatience, to say nothing worse.

The north side of the Lakes must also greatly increase in population.

I think I may venture to say, that North America does not contain one fiftieth part of the Inhabitants it requires to bring it into a tolerable state of cultivation & that the European Race may live in peace with the Indians and have from them as much Land as

they can possibly want, and as fast as the Interests of their respective Governments may require provided they treat them with natural justice & some degree of liberality.

In the course of a few years the way will probably be open & the Furs and all light articles of Commerce will take the Road which leads to the best market; heavy articles produced in the country round about these Lakes seem destined by nature to come down the River St Lawrence whoever may possess dominion in those parts.

What Revolutions may take place there in the progress of time I think impossible to foresee, but am clearly of opinion that not war, but a pure & impartial administration of Justice under a mild, wise & firm Government will establish the most powerful & wealthy People.

My letter to Colonel Simcoe marked E. being connected with the same subject a copy is enclosed.

I also inclose a state of the army in North America marked F.

A Return of the Naval Armament as it is at present, marked G.

And another of what may eventually be necessary in case of an American war marked H.

I am with Great Respect and Esteem
Sir Your most obedient
humble Servant
DORCHESTER.

Endorsed: Quebec, 25th Octr, 1793.
The Rt. Hon. Lord Dorchester.
R. 19 Decr. No. 3. (Eight Inclosures.)
The Right Honble Henry Dundas, &c. &c. &c.

[Q 66, p 215]

LT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE TO HENRY DUNDAS, SEC'Y.

YORK, UPPER CANADA, Novr. 10th 1793.

SIR,

Since the closure of my dispatch No 19. I have had much conversation with Captain Brant and Colonel Butler on the subject of the failure of the late Treaty. I am sorry to learn that the Lake Indians namely, The Ottawas, Poutawatomies & Chippawas have seceded from the Confederacy and together with the Six Nations have transmitted to Congress proposals relinquishing the Ohio Boundary as stipulated by the Confederacy & claiming that of the Muskingum as delivered to Lord Dorchester in August 1791, with some alterations rather disadvantageous to the British Interests.

Captain Brant was full of Complaints against Colonel McKee but which I have reason to believe are without any just grounds, and I suspect that the principle of disunion arose from this Chieftain; It does not appear that He expects the United States will agree to this second Boundary, and on my urging him to state what were his Sentiments should such be the case, his answer was "that should "the boundary be refused the confederacy would be again united— "that he knew the Poutawatomies of St Joseph had determined to "obtain peace at any rate, and that He thought of siding with them "in not absolutely insisting upon the Ohio as the Boundary, it "might be the means of reconciling them to the General Interests." I have reason to believe that this artful chieftain had made some such promise to the people of the States; He appears to be much agitated and dissatisfied with the prospect of Indian Affairs: However an event he did not expect has taken place, and the actual advance of General Wayne's Army which I have just received information of, from Colonel England and Colonel McKee will probably be productive of decisive events.

What will be the conduct of the Six Nations it is impossible to ascertain; On the one hand, they must lose their present possessions within the States should they take up arms; on the other, should they suffer their neighbouring Tribes to be crushed, they are sensible they can only protract their own destruction: The Lake Indians within the Boundary of the United States will more immediately perceive the consequence should the Shawanese & Delawares who are migratory Tribes quit the Country, as they will inevitably lose their Territory beyond the Lakes.

Whether in ballancing between these evils, these Tribes shall incline to act vigorously against the States, or to remain pacific or neuter, probably will depend upon the success of Mr. Wayne's Inroad.

If the neutrality of the Six Nations should secure Presque Isle from being garrisoned It might possibly be more beneficial to the Confederacy, than their open assistance; but I understand that the Pennsylvanians claim that Important Post, tho' on what pretension I am ignorant.

The variety of views that agitate the mind of Brant are to me apparent in his conversation. I have taken great care that he shall not find any reason for his defection from the British Interests in my conduct tho' he has certainly taken very unjustifiable liberties

to misrepresent the proceedings of this Government to the Agents of the United States, with the *professed* views of engaging Great Britain in a war, in which he constantly asserts she ought to assist the Indians.

I am as you may suppose Sir, anxious for the important event of this winter; but I have so long anticipated its consequences that I can add nothing further upon the subject, than that the Establishments, the Military and Civil Posts, & the force which I have mentioned to you as necessary for the safe guard and protection of this province, the *Bulwark* of British America, derive additional strength from the necessity of awing the different Indian Nations who shall reside within the Kings Dominions from an attempt on the Settlements, & of combining the Force & encreasing & regulating that attachment which may one day be essentially necessary to the Interest of His Majesty and the British Empire.

I have the honor to be with the most perfect Respect
Sir Your most obedient & most hmbl. Servt.
J. G. SIMCOE.

The Right Honble Henry Dundas,
One of His Majesty's principal Secretarys of State, &c. &c. &c.

Endorsed: York, Up. Canada, 10th Novr. 1793.
Lt. Govr. Simcoe.
R. 27 Jan. 1794. Ansd.

[Q 280–1, p 9]

LORD DORCHESTER TO HENRY DUNDAS SEC'Y.

SIR, QUEBEC, 22d November 1793.

Our last accounts from Upper Canada inform us that General Wayne, with an army said to consist of 3,000 regular troops, 2,000 militia and 200 Indians supposed to be Chickesaws, had advanced into the Indian Country & on the 18th of October was within two days march of the Glaize.

The Indians having dispersed upon the breaking up of the general conference, could only assemble about 700 men to oppose the progress of this large body of Troops, but, on the alarm sent in haste pressing messages for aid, to the tribes residing on & near the Lakes.

The Six Nations & their associates in Council at Buffaloe Creek resolved to adhere to the boundary which passes up the Muskingum and sent their resolutions in form to the United States, after which they also separated, and till they know whether their pro-

posed line is accepted or refused it is not probable they will again assemble, indeed doubts have been entertained whether in any case they would join in hostilities against the States.

The inclosed Extracts of Letters from the officer who commands at Fort Ontario will shew the condition of the vicinage & what may soon be expected from that Quarter.

I am with much respect & esteem Sir
Your most obedt & most humble Servt.

The Right Honble Henry Dundas. DORCHESTER.

Endorsed: Quebec, 22d Novr. 1793.
The Rt Honble Lord Dorchester.
R. 18 Jany 1794. No. 11. Ansd. (Three Inclosures)

[Q 67, p 28]

LT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE TO LORD DORCHESTER.

[No. 2.]

YORK, December 2d 1793.

MY LORD,

I have just been honored with Your Lordship's Letter (No. 1) of the 7th October.

I beg to state to Your Lordship that when I was at Detroit Colonel McKee shewed me a letter from a Person, who was then at Philadelphia, saying that Mr. Morris was or would be the owner of the Lands adjoining to Presqu' Isle & intimating that Mr. McKee might have a large portion for himself or his Friends. In conversation with Mr. Ogden He talked of the settlement at Presqu' Isle as foreign to their views (Morris himself & Co) & diametrically opposite to their Interests.

It being my Idea that the proposed Capital should by no means be fortified on European System, but Its approach protected by the sea ports & intermediate positions; but my Lord, in adverting to this case of extreme and hazardous necessity, the withdrawing the greatest part of the forces from this Province, I have most certainly conceived it to be my indispensible duty to pre-occupy such a situation as might enable me to defend the Province entrusted to my command (should not your Lordship find a more desirable

employment for me) in such a manner as circumstances might admit of & might best conduce by the union of Naval and Military Force to the protection of the General Interests of His Majesty's subjects, & in this Spirit I have upon mature deliberation suspended what I am convinced nothing but want of power ought to procrastinate for a single moment the occupying a situation upon the River Thames that might connect & govern the Indian Nations & which I should not hesitate to state as more immediately & more permanently necessary to the safety of this Province in all respects, & more conducive to the British Interests than the Garrisoning the Post of Detroit, with greater numbers than a single *Company*; did not the war at present raging on the Frontiers render it prudent to preserve that specious ascendancy which in the estimation of the Indians, by no means of the United States is built upon our possession with nominal force of that nominal fortress. Were not such the existing circumstances of the Country & should they speedily subside in an equtable peace; It is my apprehension incontrovertible that the Regiment now stationed there, ought to be removed, a Company excepted to the places I have designated *Chatham* and *London*.

I have the honor to be with great Respect My Lord
Your Lordship's most obedient & most humble Servant.

J. G. SIMCOE.

The Rt. Honble Lord Dorchester.

Endorsed:
In Lt. Govr. Simcoe's No. 20 of the 15th Decr. 1793. (2)

[Q 280–1, p 39]

LT. COL. RICHARD ENGLAND TO LIEUT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE.

SIR, DETROIT, December 14th 1793.

Your Excellency will no doubt be surprized at not hearing from me since my Letters of the 23rd and 29th of October & 5th of November. The two former accompanied with copies of Letters of Intelligence from Colonel McKee, relative to the movements of the army of the United States, in the Indian Country. But since then, all the Intelligence he has been able to furnish me with, has been so very vague and contradictory, that I did not conceive it an object to send an express with it to you, and impatiently waited

either for some decisive Information from him, or for his Return here, which he gave me reason daily to expect, and after keeping the Field as long as the season wou'd admit, he arrived here a few days ago. The copies of his letters to me, since my last to Your Excellency, all which I have now the honor to inclose for your information, will best explain the cause of my long silence, and the whole of the Progress of the Army, as far as he is informed, and will at the same time shew you, that every endeavor on my part was made to keep up a constant Communication with him by Expresses, both by Land and water.

In his letter of the 2d Instant, marked No 6 you will perceive that from the Intelligence which there reached him; He conceives the whole of the army under General Wayne has retreated, and that he is willing to attribute the Retreat, and the Failure of the Campaign, to a scarcity of provisions, occasioned by the capture of Sixty Pack Horses & their convoy, by a party of Ottawas, under the Little Otter, as before reported to His Excellency. But tho' it is natural to suppose that the Militia have returned home, and the Cavalry gone for the convenience of Forage to Winter Quarters at Kentucke, as stated in the Information of the Deserter herewith forwarded, yet it is my opinion, that the Regular Infantry have not quitted the Position taken six miles on this side of Fort Jefferson, and this opinion is strengthened by several articles of Intelligence that I have received from the Glaize, since the Colonel quitted that neighborhood, and as the Indians were never known to be so little united, the army has literally nothing to oppose their Progress.

The few parties of Indians that collected on the first alarm, are all returned home, and have left the Shawanese to defend themselves and their country in the best manner they can, no Entreaties on their part could prevail on them to remain, indeed while together no Enterprize was attempted, and the whole of them discovered a supineness hitherto unknown among Indians, all this, Colonel McKee attributes to the Poison that he says was copiously diffused among them by the *Six Nations*, when they assembled last Summer for their General Council.

If credit is to be given to the Information of Deserters, and other Reports, General Wayne publicly informed his army, that the temporary Distress they suffered, wou'd end when they arrived at their Station, which was nine miles from Detroit, where he proposed to pass the winter, and where they would find plenty of fresh

Provisions, and every comfort they cou'd desire. This may, or may not be true, but from the disunited situation of the Indians, they have little more than the advanced Season to impel their Progress.

I send this Dispatch by three Indians belonging to the Six Nations, who are returning home, and I detain a few more here for ten days longer, in order to communicate to Your Excellency, any further Information that may reach me. Those Indians belong to Lower Canada, and no doubt will carry to Montreal, any Letters you may think proper to entrust them with. There are two men at the Glaize for the purpose of picking up Intelligence, on their return here I shall again do myself the honor of writing to you.

I have the honor to be Your Excellency's
most obedient & most humble servant.

RD. ENGLAND,
Lieut Colonel.

Collins who I sent you Prisoner last Winter, is the principal guide to Wayne's army.

RD. E.

Since I closed my Letter Col. McKee showed me a letter from the Glaize acquainting him that *all* the Shawanese are gone to war, so that probably we may soon hear of a Convoy being attacked, or some such matter of *equal* Importance.

R. E.

His Excellency Lt. Govr. Simcoe, &c. &c. &c.

Endorsed: A.
In Lord Dorchester's No. 18 to Mr. Dundas of the 24th Feb. 1794.

MAJ. GEN. ANTHONY WAYNE TO THE INDIANS.

GRENVILLE, 14th January 1794.

To the Chiefs and warriors of the Delawares, Shawanees and Miami Nations or Tribes of Indians & all others whom it may concern.

BROTHERS,

I have received your verbal message sent by Stephen Young, George White Eyes and another warrior who were accompanied by Mr. Robert Wilson, as Your Interpreter.

If peace is your object & the wish and desire of your hearts why did not you or some of the principal chiefs of your nation or Nations come forward and speak for yourselves?

The Ears and Heart of the President of the United States (General Washington) are ever open to the voice of peace, & he has intrusted me his chief Warrior to listen to that welcome voice from whatever quarter it may come, provided it comes from proper authority and from the Heart.

But as you have only sent a verbal Message by your Runners, and as the Delawares, Shawanees, Miamis and Wyandots have for a long time shut their Ears and hardened their hearts so as not to permit that good voice to enter or to be heard, altho often repeated at different times & by several paths & strongly & loudly re-echoed by the commissioners of Congress & by all the Chiefs of the Six Nations assembled in Council at the Rapids of the Miamis of the Lake last Summer. It will be necessary that you give convincing & unequivocal proofs of your sincere wish & desire for peace by bringing & delivering up all & every of the American or White Prisoners now in your possession to the officer commanding at Fort Recovery, i. e. on the same ground where the action of the 4th of November 1791, took place & that on or before the next full moon which will be on the 14th of February i. e.—in the course of thirty days from & after this date & immediately sending off Runers to call in & restrain all and every of your warriors from committing any Murders, Robberies or depredations, upon any of the Inhabitants or Citizens of the United States or upon any Escort, Party or Parties of Troops on their way to or from any of our Posts or Garrisons wheresoever or whatsoever.

In the meantime the path shall be kept open so that you may have a free communication between your Town & Fort Recovery (the late field of Battle) the only path by which you can come always taking care to show a white Flag which my Warriors are ordered to pay particular respect & to receive you as Friends & to guard you safe from harm or danger both in coming to that place and from thence here, & in returning to your Towns.

All foregoing conditions being punctually complied with upon your part I shall then be convinced of your peaceable dispositions & my heart & arms will be open to receive and meet you at this place on or before the 14th February the day above mentioned in order to fix and determine upon a proper time and place for holding a General Treaty.

In the meantime it is to be well & perfectly understood that the progress of this army is not to be retarded or molested in its advancing but shall be permitted to move peaceably & quietly with

all its aperatus, provisions and stores & every article & thing necessary for holding the Treaty.

Thus will the door be opened for establishing a permanent and lasting peace founded upon former Treaties & on the solid basis of honor, equity & justice & to the mutual interest & satisfaction of all parties.

And thus will the war hatchet be buried so deep that it can never again be found.

From your Friend & Brother

ANTHONY WAYNE,
Major General & Commander in Chief of the Army
of the United States of America.

Endorsed:
In Lt. Govr. Simcoe's No. 21 of the 28th Feby. 1794. (4)

[Q 280–1, p 84]

COL. A. MK KEE TO LIEUT. COL. R. ENGLAND.

Extract of a Letter from Colonel McKee to Colonel England dated Foot of the Rapids 21st Jany 1794.

"I take the earliest opportunity that has offered since my arrival "here to inform you that the Reports which were in circulation in "Detroit, relative to the conduct of the Indians in this part of the "Country, seem to be without any foundation, except that at Christ- "mas or New Years day some Mounseys were importunate for a few "Bottles of Rum, which one of the Traders for some time refused, "but at length sold them on their promise of payment; upon the "whole from all the information I can yet collect, the Indians in "general do not appear to have altered their conduct since I left "them in the fall of last year."

J. G. S.

Endorsed:
In Lt. Govr. Simcoe's No. 21 of the 28th 1794.

[Q 280–1, p 82]

COL. A. MC KEE TO LIEUT. COL. RICHARD ENGLAND.

SIR, FOOT OF THE RAPIDS, 28th January 1794,

I am just informed that the Delawares & Willson whom I mentioned in my letter of the 21st January are returned from the Forts, and that they have brought a speech to the Indians from General Wayne, a copy of which is herewith inclosed.

It does not appear that any of the other nations were concerned in sending the Message they carried and I apprehend that even the Delawares were prevailed on to open a Communication by sinister means.

In consequence of this speech a council will be held by the Chiefs of the different Nations in two or three days, and as I have a person at the Glaize to forward to me the earliest Intelligence of their determination, you may rely on my communicating the same to you with as much expedition as possible, that you may forward it by the Express should you think it of sufficient importance to detain it for a day or two for that purpose.

I have the honor to be &c. &c.

A. McKee.

Lt. Col. England, &c. &c.

Endorsed: B.
In Lord Dorchester's to Mr. Dundas No. 21 of the 28 March 1794.

[Q 67, p 153]

LT. COL. R. ENGLAND TO LT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE.

Extract of a Letter from Lieut Colonel England to Colonel Simcoe, dated Detroit February 2nd 1794.

"Since I wrote, no Reports of any consequence reached me, till the 8th of January, when I was informed that the Delawares had decided on making overtures for a Peace with the United States, and that four of them, authorized by the rest, accompanied with an Interpreter, had set out for Fort Jefferson for that purpose, this circumstance added to some ill grounded reports of Robberries & depredations committed by Indians on the Traders in the Neighbourhood of the Foot of the Rapids, having occasioned an alarm among the Merchants here, induced me to request Colonel McKee would return to the Foot of the Rapids, and by his influence, restore security to those in Trade, and enquire into the particulars of the Overtures for Peace, said to have been made by the Delawares."

"Since the Colonel has been at the Foot of the Rapids I received two letters from him, copies of which I have the honor to inclose you, the latter accompanied with a copy of an address from Major General Wayne to the Tribes of Indians who are considered hostile to the United States."

"By the address your Excellency will perceive that General Wayne has built a fort on the ground where the action was fought

on the 4th of November 1791, which he calls Fort Recovery, it would also appear that he has established a new Post which he calls Grenville, from whence he dates his address, I have not yet been able to learn where *Grenville is, but expect to hear by return to my Express to Colonel McKee, and propose to delay the Express that was to set out for Niagara to-morrow morning, till I again hear from the Colonel.

Endorsed: A.
In Lord Dorchester's to Mr. Dundas the 28th March 1794.

[Q 67, p 151]

INDIAN COUNCIL.

Proceedings of a Council of the Six Nation Indians &c held at Buffaloe Creek on the Seventh day of February 1794.

Present

The Chiefs of the Mohawk, Cayugas Onondagos, Senecas, Oneidas, Tuscaroras, Delawares &c, &c, &c. Brigade Major Littlehales (Captain Bunbury) and the officers of the Indian Department, General Chapin Mr Parish, Interpreter, and Mr. Colt of the United States.

After going through the usual ceremony of congratulations, the Cow Killer a Seneca chief Spoke as follows,

BROTHERS,

(Addressed to General Chapin) We are happy the great Spirit has protected you to, and from the United States, with our proceedings to the President, relative to a Boundary line, and his (the President's) answer thereon.

BROTHERS,

(Addressed to the British) We are exceedingly glad to see you the King, our Father's people, here, as we sent for you to request you to listen to the answer of the President of the United States. Now Brother of the United States proceed,

Mr. Chapin returned the compliment to the Chiefs, adding that he was glad they had sent for the British to hear the Speech about to be delivered, observing that the distemper in Philadelphia and Congress not being assembled, occasioned his delay in returning. Genl. Chapin then directed Mr Colt to read the following Speech which was Interpreted by Mr Parish, accompanied with a large Belt of White Wampum, and thirteen stripes of Black Wampum.

* Probably His winter camp six miles in front of Fort Jefferson, eighty-six from Fort Washington.

To the Sachems, Chiefs and Warriors of the Six Nations

Brothers,

A copy of your proceedings at Buffaloe Creek on the eighth day of October last hath been received by General Chapin. These proceedings contain the sentiments of several Chiefs of the various Tribes who were assembled at the great Council fire which was kindled at the Rapids of the Miami to the last Summer, and in addition to this information you add in your meeting of the tenth of the same Month your desires of a Boundary which you say will be further explained by Genl. Chapin all these Communications have been submitted to your Father General Washington, the President of the United States, who desires the Six Nations to receive his sincere and hearty thanks for their assurance, and acts of friendship to the United States. While your Father the president has observed with great pleasure the pains you have taken to effect a peace between the United States, and the hostile Indians, He is at the same time very sorry that any circumstances should have prevented the accomplishment of a Measure affecting the happiness of both parties; peace, is best for the whites, as well as the red people, and it is always the cause of sorrow among Good men when Misunderstandings arise which create wars. The United States consider that they have taken all the requisite means to obtain a Peace which their duty or humanity required, they appointed respectable and wise characters as Commissioners, accompanied by a deputation of friends the Known Advocated for Peace. Those Commissioners under discouraging Circumstances persevered for a long time to obtain an interview with the great Council of the Indians. This being ineffectual they made in good faith such liberal offers in writing to ensure the future Comfort and prosperity of the Indians, as were never before given to the Indians of North America. These Circumstances being known, for ever acquit the United States from all imputations of desiring a Continuance of the War. The same principles of moderation and humanity which before dictated the Offers to the Indians, and a Sincere friendship for the Six Nations, have induced your Father, the President to consider attentively your propositions for a New Boundary, although the lines you mention are considered as liable to considerable objections, yet it is hoped, when all difficulties shall be discussed at a Treaty or Conference, by Moderate Men with upright views that some agreement may be made which would lead to a general peace, on this Ground the

President consents that a conference should be held at Venango, on the fifteenth or middle of next May. It is expected the Chiefs of the Six Nations and Chippawas will attend and the Chiefs of all such of the Western Tribes as the Said Six Nations and Chippawas may invite, and if the hostile Tribes should think proper to attend they will be well received, and treated as people ought to be, who are holding friendly Treaties, but it cannot be unknown to you, by the late abortive efforts to negotiate, the American Army was restrained from Offensive operations against those Tribes who appear deaf to the voice of reason and peace, such a Conduct will not be observed by the United States again; This must be clearly understood let it be remembered therefore there is no deception on our parts; Our Army must be left entirely at liberty to act as circumstances may require, the scene of operation however will be far distant from Venango, the proposed place of meeting. It is to be observed that in case of any of the Western Indians attend at Venango, it would be proper that they should proceed by water at least as far East as Presqu' Isle, and thence to French Creek by Land. It would be dangerous for them to proceed from the Westward by land, for the same reason they gave last year, namely that the said paths are bloody paths.

Brothers,

If you agree to the time and place of meeting it will be proper that you should immediately signify the same to General Chapin, that due preparations may be made at the same place.

Given at the City of Philadelphia by order of the President of the United States, this twenty fourth day of December, one thousand seven hundred and ninety three.

H. Knox,
Secretary of War.

After this Speech was read and interpreted by Mr. Parish, Mr. Chapin said

Brothers,

Having been absent from home near one year. I hope to have an answer as soon as convenient to the President's speech, and I have procured for each of you, who attended the Council at the Miamis Rapids, last summer, as you have been at a great deal of trouble, a Suit of Cloaths, some ammunition, and some few articles for your distressed Women & children, which I recommended to, and requested the President would grant as necessary for your Ser-

vices and to which he readily consented, I hope these things have arrived at my house by this time.

The Cow Killer (a Seneca chief) then spoke.

BROTHERS OF THE UNITED STATES,

We have heard the speech you have brought with you, but now emove the Council fire to our Castle, to take it into our private Consideration; This chief then took the speech (and Belt) delivered by General Chapin and gave it to Brigade Major Littlehales, desiring he would peruse it attentively, till he was perfectly acquainted with its contents.

Major of Brigade Littlehales then addressed himself to the Chiefs as follows, returning the strings of Black & White Wampum that were sent to him to attend the Council.

BROTHERS OF THE SIX NATIONS AND YOUR ALLIES,

Agreeably to your invitation communicated to me, in the absence of the Governor from Niagara, (and for his information) Soliciting my attendance with some of the King your Father's Officers, together with the Officers of your own Department, we immediately proceeded here, and thank the great Spirit for bringing us safe to your Council fire.

E. B. LITTLEHALES.

Adjourned—

Proceedings of the Council continued at Buffaloe Creek the Ninth day of February 1794.

Present as before on the 7th Instant.

Cow Killer—Speaker—(Mr. Parish) Interpreter

BROTHERS,

(To General Chapin) We have taken your Speech into Consideration and our eldest Brother Captain Brant is to relate the result of our meeting in private Council yesterday, in Consequence thereof.

Captain Brant then spoke as follows with nine Strings of White Wampum.

BROTHERS,

I now address myself to you (Brigade Major Littlehales) in behalf of the King our Father, and thank the good Spirit for bringing us again together in Council, as what we are going to say, we wish the World to know.

BROTHERS,

You have both heard the Message we delivered to our Brothers of the United States last Fall, relative to a Boundary Line, and

we expected a positive answer from you, Brothers of the United States whether you would accept it or not.

BROTHERS,

When we delivered the Message, last Fall to you, for the United States, we had first taken it into serious consideration, we spoke the language of our hearts, and the Great Spirit knew our minds, all the Six Nations were of the same opinion, and many of our Western Brethren, and we were well assured that had the United States accepted our proposed Boundary, Peace would certainly have taken place.

BROTHERS,

The Speech you have brought us, has given us great uneasiness, we are entirely at a loss how to act, we fully expected a direct answer to our proposals of a boundary line, now we are much distressed that you have brought but half an answer to our proceedings. The kindling a Council fire, at a distant place, is what we are not prepared to give you a reply to.

BROTHERS,

Provided the United States had accepted our Boundary Line, we should have sent immediately to Our Western Brethren who know our Sentiments, and we would have attended your Council fire and confirmed that Boundary Line.

BROTHERS,

Make your minds easy, but in consequence of the importance of your Speech containing very weighty matters, we must deliberate seriously upon it, we cannot give you an immediate answer, we must have a General Council of all the Chiefs.

Only few are now present, and we should all be together, the reason of so much counciling at different times proceeded from so small a number of our Sachems and Chiefs being assembled, which is the cause that we are still in trouble.

BROTHERS,

You General Chapin live near us, we have two months and a half to consider of your Speech, and by that time we will give you a final answer, we pray the Great Spirit that these difficulties may terminate to the happiness of both parties.

BROTHERS,

You requested us to give an answer as soon as convenient, but in such a very weighty business it is impossible to give one directly—

With regard to Provisions there is plenty in the Country, and if we should agree to meet you, you need not be particular about what we shall consume, and even in case we should meet you, we expect nothing but provisions.

BROTHERS,

We now conclude and we pray the Great Spirit to protect you safe home, and we desire you will bear it constantly in your mind, that you will soon receive an answer.

The nine Strings of Wampum were then delivered to General Chapin who immediately replyed.

BROTHERS,

I thank the Great Spirit for preserving us and am happy that we are again met together on this important business.

BROTHERS,

You have delivered a Speech an answer which has been taken down in writing. I shall return to Canandorque my seat, and wait patiently for your answer.

BROTHERS,

The matter is of Great importance and it gives me pleasure that you consider it so, and that you mean to call together all your chiefs and wise men to consider it seriously.

BROTHERS,

You may depend upon it that your Father General Washington wishes for Peace, and the reason he wishes the proposed Treaty is, that all the Indian Nations may talk it over together in a most serious manner, it is his desire that those who are at war and all other Indians may come to the proposed place, to discuss where the difficulty lays, that peace may be made; he hopes that the good work of the Six Nations to bring about a peace may be attended with success.

BROTHERS,

I shall return home and wait your answer and hope all nations will be agreed, and that things may be settled in such a way to the satisfaction of the United States, and the Indians.

Major of Brigade Littlehales then addressed the Indians in the following words

BROTHERS OF THE SIX NATIONS, AND YOUR ALLIES; SACHEMS, CHIEFS AND WARRIORS,

I shall faithfully relate the proceedings of this Council fire, to the Lieutenant Governor, whose attention to your interests in which

He obeyed the King your Father's commands, has been constant and manifest; as a substantial proof thereof, I cannot avoid calling to your recollection how chearfully and readily He complied with the requests you desired me to make to him on your behalf, when at your general Council assembled here last winter, corresponding also with the wishes of your Western Brethern, and all the Indian Confederacy.

BROTHERS,

In order to enable you to meet the United States, you asked of him such assistance as he knew you would stand in need of, particularly Provisions.

BROTHERS,

In consequence he gave orders that you might be amply supplied with provisions to assist you to prosecute so good a work, as the establishment of peace.

His sentiments towards you are the same as have been expressed by Lord Dorchester, who is the Great Chief of all the King your Fathers people in British America, and I repeat to you what His Lordship said to the Deputies of your nations a very few summers ago at Quebec, "I leave the command of this Country to Major "General Clarke, who will take the same care of you that I have "done, for is the will of the King our Master, His benevolence "and friendship for you are always the same, and whoever is the "instrument of the Kings power in this Country will always fulfil "his intentions."

You see therefore, Brothers, it is His Excellency Colonel Simcoe's duty, as well as his inclination to shew the most cordial friendship and regard for the Indian Americans.

BROTHERS,

When the Governor received your Belt of Wampum to lead him to the Council Fire at Sandusky—He answered, "that if the Government of the United States acceded to your request, his personal attendance would probably not be wanting without which it would have been fruitless" and not consistent with the dignity of his station, but he was not unmindful of your Interest.

BROTHERS,

You desired that all Maps, Records, Treaties & Documents relating to the Indians might be brought to Sandusky knowing that you could confidently depend on the King your Father, you therein shewed your wisdom founded on experience that you may confidently

depend upon the King your Father, for He never will deceive you, and so strongly is the love of truth impressed by His Example and orders on all who are entrusted with his power in this Country that the Youngest of our Chief Warriors would be degraded from the character was he capable of deceit or falsehood.

BROTHERS,

When at Quebec a few Summers ago you told the Commander in Chief Lord Dorchester "There are people who say the King "your Father, when he made peace, with the United States gave "away your land to them." What was His Lordship's answer? He said, "I cannot think that the Government of the United States "would hold that language, it must be from ill informed individuals;

BROTHERS,

The truth of this answer of Lord Dorchester, has been fully confirmed by General Washington the President of the United States and particularly by Colonel Pickering, one of the late commissioners who duly authorized by him formerly addressed the following words to the five Nations. "We claim no Lands but what belong to the Nations "who sold to us, we claim not a foot of the Lands of any of the "Nations, with whom we have yet held no Treaties."

This clearly shews, Brothers that what had been told you, is proved to be just and true:—The Documents, Records and Treaties between the British Governors in former times, and your wise Forefathers, of which in consequence of your request, authentic copies were transmitted to you all establish the Freedom of your Nations.

BROTHERS,

These authentic papers prove, that no King of Great Britain ever claimed absolute power or sovereignty over any of your Lands or Territories, that were not fairly purchased or bestowed by your Ancestors at public Treaties they likewise prove that your national Independency has been preserved and that the rights resulting from such Independency have been reciprocally and constantly acknowledged at the Treaties between the French formerly possessors of part of this Continent and the Crown of Great Britain; and it will appear when the war in North America arose between the French and the British which terminated in the King your Father's obtaining possession of Canada that it commenced in consequence of the French Nation invading the Stipulations by which the Indian Americans were acknowledged to be Independent.

Brothers,

You need scarcely be reminded that after the peace of 1763 The King your Father uniformly followed the just conduct of his predecessors, to prevent all future encroachments, the Treaty of Fort Stanwix was by his direction made with the several Indian Nations by that wise and good man, your late Superintendant Genl. Sir William Johnson; the boundary there agreed upon, as it was traced with his own hands was forwarded to you, at the Confederated Council at the Miamis Rapids last Summer, with all later Treaties between your Nations and the United States *you* and *they* must be best acquainted.

Brothers,

You plainly perceive that no interpretation of the boundary line settled between the King your Father and the United States, can have a shadow of pretext to consider your Independency as injured or that your territories were bargained away as the Price of Peace.

Brothers,

The Lieutenant Governor directed your Superintendents and officers of your Department as you desired to attend your Council fire at Sandusky and to aid you in whatever matters you should require their assistance.

Brothers,

With a view to facilitate so desirable a work as that of peace between you and the United States He ordered the officers of the King's Ships to give every assistance to their Commissioners in their passage to and from Sandusky and he afforded them all the convenience in his power to exemplify the sincere and ardent desire he had to contribute to so great a purpose as the general tranquility.

Brothers,

I am well assured that the Lieutenant Governor most heartily prays the Almighty Being the common Father of all Mankind to give Wisdom and Union to your Councils and He most fervently hopes that peace may be settled on such honorable just and lasting foundations as may be for the common interests, and general benefits of all the people, on this Continent.

Given at Buffaloe Creek on the }
Ninth day of Februray 1791. }

After the Speech was delivered and Interpreted the Council fire was covered up and the meeting was dissolved; The proceedings were then revised in the presence of General Chapin, Mr. Colt and

Mr. Parish, Captain Brant and the officers of the Indian Department the principal part of which I had minuted myself in Council and dictated to Mr. Shehan the remainder; this proving satisfactory to Mr. Chapin He requested a copy to be taken of all the proceedings which was accordingly done by Mr. Colt except my speech owing to their not being sufficient time to copy it. On my desiring the original and copy to be compared I found a trivial deviation in *words only*, in part of Mr. Chapin's *last* Speech.

E. B. LITTLEHALES.

Endorsed:
In Lt. Govr. Simcoe's No. 28 of the 3d July 1794. (2)

[Q 280–1, p 213]

LORD DORCHESTER TO LT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE.

[No. 6.]

QUEBEC, 17th February 1794.

SIR,

The accounts received by Lieutenant Colonel England of Mr. Wayne's intention to close us up at Detroit I think the more probable from the conduct which I find has been pursued for the two last summers on the side of Lake Champlain where the King's Sovereignty has been completely overturned within the Posts and they now impudently tell the Commandant that his Jurisdiction extends no farther than his Guns even this I expect in a short time they will not allow.

Self defence therefore requires we should prevent similar evils from extending further and that for our own security at the Detroit, we should occupy nearly the same posts on the Miamis River which we demolished after the peace.

This I think would cover Detroit and our communications with that settlement from Lake Erie but if given up, the post, I apprehend cannot be maintained.

At the same time that all necessary measures for our Defence are taken on the land side the Lakes must not be neglected; it may for this purpose be necessary to arm the ships and vessels completely, in order to preserve our command on the water also, and if you find this expedient, you will order it accordingly.

Your own experience and local knowledge will point out to you the force proper to occupy the Miamis, as well as the most advantageous Positions, without confining yourself to the spots we occupied in 1783.

You will therefore order such Force from Detroit to the Miamis River as you may judge sufficient for the service, as soon as the season and other circumstances will permit, observing only the general direction to preserve Detroit from being straitened either by land or water.

At the same time that you order a portion of troops from Detroit with the artillery requisite for that service, it may not be amiss to consider what Reinforcements you may draw from other parts within your command, without exposing any to insult, and what assistance you may have from the Militia; also whether by collecting all the Force in your power to assemble, you would be in a condition to resist Wayne's attack, should he attempt by force to take possession of the Country.

I enclose a Copy of my answer to a message from the Indians of the Upper Nations which will sufficiently explain itself.

I am with Regard Sir
Your most obedient
humble Servant.

DORCHESTER.

Colonel Simcoe,
Commanding His Majesty's Forces in Upper Canada.

Endorsed: A.
In Lt Governor Simcoe's No. 12. To the Duke of Portland of the 20th Decr. 1794.

[Q 281-1, p 145]

LT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE TO HENRY DUNDAS, SEC'Y.

SIR,

Long Point is similarly circumstanced with respect to Lake Erie, there is no Port but this, and the Grand River from Fort Erie to the Detroit River, and the South Shores of this Lake are similar to those of Ontario, from the Straits of St. Clair to Matchadosh or Gloucester Bay, and from thence to the Straits of St. Mary, there is no other Harbour than Matchedosh Bay.

These Sea Ports might in the first instance be perfectly defended by those Block Houses. I have transmitted an estimate if successively executed; They might in a short space be garrisoned, where necessary by that species of Militia or Castle Guard, to be formed from the disbanded soldiers of the Queens rangers, agreeably to that arrangement by which His Majesty's Ministers were induced

to raise that Corps, looking forward most wisely to the principle of rendering a part of the standing army every day less necessary in Upper Canada. And I cannot but observe to you, that with proper provisions and attention to the detail, which at a seasonable opportunity I shall do myself the honor to transmit to you (I have no doubt but that such soldiers as by their industry may be desirous and deserving of their discharges in this Country will be glad to be enrolled in such militia and for their discharge to pay all the *expences* of enlistment passage and maintenance of a Recruit from *Great Britain.*

These ports, affording means for reciprocal communication possess striking advantages, in respect to offensive operations. It can admit of no doubt in their very appearance. The preparations for offensive war, should there even be no probability of carrying them into effect, would be more formidable, and competent of protection of the Province than any scattered line of impotent defence in which the Enemy would have nothing to do but decide by lottery of which part of the province he would first take possession.

I have the honor to be with the Greatest Respect
Sir Your most obedient and very Huml. Servt.
J. G. SIMCOE.

The Right Honorable Henry Dundas, &c. &c. &c.

Endorsed: York, 23d Feby. 1794
Lt. Govr. Simcoe.
R. 10th June. Ansd. (One Inclosure.)
[Q 280–1, p 55]

LORD DORCHESTER TO HENRY DUNDAS, SEC'Y.

SIR, QUEBEC, 24 February 1794.

[A.] Lieutenant Colonel England's Letter contains the last Information I have received from Detroit, and shews the broken condition of the Indian Confederacy; the causes of which are attributed to a defection of the Six Nations; which I think no more than might have been expected.

[B.] By the Intelligence which accompanies his Letter it appears that General Wayne intends to march to Detroit, this is the more probable as it corresponds with what has been carrying forward on other parts of the Frontier.

The proceedings of the people of the States on the side of Lake Champlain, and more particularly on Caldwell's Manor, point out clearly what we must submit to, were Mr. Wayne suffered to advance: these circumstances admitting of no further delay, it becomes [C.] necessary immediately to send such additional Orders & Instructions to Colonel Simcoe [D.] for the Defence of the Upper Country, as appeared best suited to its present condition.

What resources may be derived from the militia of the Country I have not yet learned. Detroit is able to send out a considerable Force upon any sudden Emergency; but being chiefly on the extra Provincial side, that part of the Militia would soon undergo the same Fate as the Militia on Caldwell's Manor, be new organized and turned against the King if Mr. Wayne were suffered to approach.

[F.] I have informed Mr. Hammond of the hostile appearances manifested in all parts [G.] by our Neighbours, and have sent him a copy of my answer to a message from the Indians of the Upper Country.

[H.] My Instructions to Major General Ogilvie, concerning the evacuation of the Island St Peter, will shew what appears to me expedient on the occasion.

Oct. 25th. No. 3. Having already submitted my opinion of the measures requisite for the General Security of the King's American Dominions, I have little now to add from any further view of Things; but I must here observe, that not only the Islands of Cape Breton, St Johns & Newfoundland, but also the Provinces of Nova Scotia & New Brunswick, possess so little colonial strength, that left to this alone, it would not require a very considerable armament to lay their entire coasts desolate, and spread destruction through the Country, to a considerable distance from the shores.

Even a large Body of Troops, without Ships to maintain a superiority at Sea could preserve only some few stations where they might be collected in Force; but if much dispersed, they might also share the common Ruin.

I am with great Respect and esteem Sir

Your most obedient humble Servant

DORCHESTER.

The Right Honble Henry Dundas.

Endorsed: Quebec, 24th Febry. 1794.
The Rt Honble Lord Dorchester.
R. 10th June, No. 18. Ansd. (Eight Enclosures.)

LT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE TO HENRY DUNDAS, SEC'Y.

UPPER CANADA, YORK, February 28th 1794.

SIR,

I wish that the Indian Papers which I transmit by this opportunity were of a more favorable nature.

Brigade Major Littlehales has my directions to consult with Mr. Hammond so as to prevent if possible all inconvenience that may arise from Mr. Wayne's approach to the vicinity of the Detroit, our settlements extend a considerable way into the Country. It is obvious that without actual hostility a Line may be so drawn round Detroit as to cut it off under the most plausible pretences from all Intercourse with the Indian Nations, preparatory to those people being turned against us, which we may expect according to all former proceedings of the Savages. The Shawanese will probably quit the Country, and the Indians who remain will perhaps bear no resentment against the States.

I wish most sincerely Sir, that I could disbelieve the universal concurrence of every species of information that I receive from the United States, of the general conversation and determination being to wrest the post from Great Britain, circumstances that may arise in Europe will check or augment this inclination, and it is with peculiar pleasure that I learn of a considerable armament being sent to the West Indies. Its vicinity may certainly have a competent influence with the maratime Inhabitants of the United States, but they do not govern their councils. The general opinion amongst all classes of them is, that in "one winter they could overcome Canada."

His Majesty's Ministers will without a doubt advert, in case foreseen warfare to the consequence it is to this Colony, as *at present circumstanced*, that no rupture should happen if possible in such a manner, that an invasion in winter would be the first notice I should obtain of so dreadful an event.

I have the honor to be with the greatest respect Sir
Your most obedient and
Most humble Servant.

J. G. SIMCOE.

The Right Honorable Henry Dundas, &c. &c. &c.

[Q 280-1, p 75]

LT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE TO HENRY DUNDAS, SEC'Y.

SIR, YORK, March 2d 1794.

A Delaware Chief, resident at the Grand River, who lately left Detroit, has arrived here. He is sent by Captain Brant to communicate to me the Information, that a Deputation from the hostile Western Indians in consequence of the result of the last Council was gone to General Wayne, to make peace.

He says that Colonel McKee did his utmost to prevent this message, and that the Garrison of *Fort Recovery* the place where the Battle was fought with General Sinclair, consists of a thousand men, I think the substance of this Report to be true, and that it will produce, in due gradation, the most important effects.

The Six Nations Confederacy, It is probable, will be as submissive, as the Western Indians to such terms as General Wayne shall dictate, these I make no doubt will be specious, and apparently liberal.

Should the Southern Indians, the Creeks or Cherokees, continue to defend their Country, the whole American Policy having but this single object to attend to, in its interior concerns, will probably secure a speedy termination of all difficulties in that quarter. In this train of circumstances, it would give me infinite pleasure, could I flatter myself that the Situation of Affairs in Europe, were such, as to enable his Majesty's Ministers to complete the Regiments to their stated numbers, and by any modification of Force to make it prudent in me to make those Establishments which I proposed upon the River Thames and Lake Erie.

Every moment confirms me in my opinion of the necessity of this arrangement with respect to the Indian Nations.

The principal object of this Dispatch, Sir, is more immediately to point out to your attention two Circumstances; the first is, that General Knox in his last message, not only when He speaks of the president Washington calls him *Father* which hitherto has been unusual, but addressed his message to the Six Nations and *Chippawas*, The *Chippawas* are the principal Nation of Indians residing to the Northward of the River Le Franche, or Thames, filling up the whole of the Isthmus to the North, and more or less, extending through the whole tract of our inland Commerce to the westward.

The second Circumstance to which I allude, is the President Washington's lately recommending attention to be paid by the

Legislature to supply the Indian Nations with regular Markets through the medium of the public, which would require no profit on the several commodities, but merely a remuneration of the Original Expence.

The Settlement that I proposed for the Capital on the Spot, designated in the plans I have done myself the Honor of transmitting *London* is the only means that I can devise to form such an Union with the Indian Nations, as may possibly prevent their being turned against the British Colonies even should the Detroit be given up.

The great means to preserve the Indians would be faithfully to bestow upon them the King's bounty with every possible ceremony in the Capital of the Country, this would operate to prevent the effects of President Washington's Policy.

My opinion on this subject will be, Sir, more particularly expressed in the report which I have been some time maturing, for the Lords of the committee of the Council for trade on the State of this Province, and which I hope to transmit so soon as the navigation shall permit, when I may expect to be able to detail the Result of the Councils of the Western Indians.

I have the honor to be with the utmost respect Sir

Your most obedient & most faithful Servant.

The Right Honorable Henry Dundas. &c. &c. &c. J. G. Simcoe.

Endorsed: York, 2d March 1794.
Lt. Govr. Simcoe.
R. 10th June. No. 22. Ansd.

[Q 280–1, p 118]

THOMAS ASTON COFFIN TO COL. JOHN CAMPBELL.

Sir, Quebec, 10th March 1794.

Lord Dorchester has been informed that copies of his reply to the Indians in the Council lately held at Quebec have been taken and circulated in a very public manner. His Lordship directs me to signify to you his desire that if possible you would trace and report to him from what quarter such indiscreet & improper conduct has proceeded, the reply was given into Mr. Lorimier's charge, but Lord Dorchester thinks if necessary to ascertain the fact it would be right to question all the Interpreters that were present.

I am Sir &ca.

Colonel Campbell. Thos. Aston Coffin.

Endorsed: A.
In Lord Dorchester's to Mr. Dundas No. 22 of the 28 March 1794.

[Q 67, p 169]

LT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE TO LORD DORCHESTER.

Extract of a letter from Lieutenant Governor Simcoe to Lord Dorchester, dated York Upper Canada, March 14, 1794.

"I have the honour of acknowledging your Lordship's letter and "its enclosure, your speech to the different Indian Nations assem- "bled at the Miamis &c which I received last night.

"I think it proper to sett off immediately for Detroit to execute "Your Lordship's commands, and only wait till the present intensely "cold weather which has suddenly set in, shall permit me to pass "down the Lake to Burlington Bay.

"I mean to proceed to the Grand River, to have canoes built "on the River Thames, and hope in six or seven days from the "Grand River to be at Detroit.

"It appears of great moment that His Majesty's Troops should be "in *possession* of the posts which your Lordship intimates, before "any part of Mr. Wayne's army shall have approached thither.

"From the tenor of Mr. Knox's instructions and his comments "to General Sinclair, there appears to me to be little doubt but "that the possession of these posts will be construed into Hostility— "whether such shall immediately take effect, will depend upon the "temper of General Wayne and his force comparatively, to the "strength of the positions which may be taken. At present it "appears to me that *Turtle Island* may be rendered safe, but that "any post on the continent if attacked must be considered as "necessarily sacrificed—but of these matters I shall be a more ade- "quate judge by the information I shall collect at Detroit, and if "it can be done with propriety by personal Investigation. I have "directed The Engineer Lieutenant Pilkington to accompany me to "Detroit, and if upon consultation with him, I shall find his business "at Michilimackinac to be of inferior moment, I shall suspend his "going to that Post, agreeably to his general directions to a more "convenient season.

"I will do my utmost to fulfill your Lordship's Instructions rela- "tive to the naval armament.

"The Detroit is not defensible as an Harbour against such an "artillery as Mr. Wayne is reported to have with him, and as he "may easily draw from Fort Pitt, in particular as being frozen "over during the winter, it affords no protection but by an expen- "sive series of fortification, impracticable to be erected on a sudden "and probably impolitic as well as inefficacious in the result.

"I do not conceive it possible, My Lord, to draw any force from "any part of this Country that may materially contribute to the "defence of Detroit, and not leave the other posts exposed to "insult; nor do I think it possible by any collection of Troops in "this Country to resist Wayne's *direct attack* should he attempt to "take possession of Detroit, with the force he is confidently repre- "sented to bring with him.

"In respect to the Militia when I determined to communicate to "Mr. Hammond by Major of Brigade Littlehales, that considering "the River au Raisins as in His Majesty's settlement, I should "resist any attempt of the armies of the United States to pass "that River, I immediately made known my determination to Mr "Baby The Lieutenant of the County & in confidence, of him and "Colonel England, I desired that every attention might be paid to "the Militia of That District & that they might be called together "& reviewed. In my former visit to Detroit Mr Montigui at my "desire went to that settlement, my wishes were to withdraw the "Inhabitants if necessary over the Strait—they protested their Loy- "alty in ample terms. I know Colonel McKee is of opinion they "are not to be trusted." J. G. S.

Endorsed: B.
In Lt. Governor Simcoe's No. 12 to the Duke of Portland of the 20th Decr. 1794.

[Q 281–1, p 148]

Private. LT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE TO LORD DORCHESTER.

My Lord, York, March 14th 1794.

The present situation of affairs seems to require that I should fully state to Your Lordship such opinions as I may have formed on the means of protecting this Province and which have not been already communicated to you in those various suggestions which I have offered as an uniform system of defence, that I cannot but regret has not been hitherto adopted.

The divisions among the Indians operating to induce the remnant of the Western Confederacy to ask a peace of the United States, will necessarily draw after it the submission of the Six Nations to such terms as shall be dictated to them, unless Your Lordships Speech and the post now to be taken shall encourage them to maintain their resolutions.

Colonel McKee has always maintained, that it was unavoidably done to discourage the Seneca's from settling at the Grand River,

he considers the Corn Planter as totally in the interests of the United States. That Chieftain assured me to the contrary, He did not attend the late meeting at Buffaloe Creek on account of illness as it was said, and I am inclined to believe. He told me the United States should not settle at Presqu-Isle. It is understood that *He* sold that Land, without a right so to do, and fearful of the upbraidings of the Indians, and the consequent diminution of his authority is anxious to prevent the sale from taking place.

I am in hopes that Brant will recover, as I have not heard of his death; I am convinced that he is at the bottom of the complaint made to Your Lordship against Colonel McKee. He has much at heart that some provision should be made for his family in case of his death; I did not hesitate when he went to the Council to promise him, that I should exert my utmost influence to obtain, in case of such an event, the King's bounty to be extended to his family, and if in my passage through the Grand River Village, I find him alive I will confirm my promise.

In case the Western Indians shall not have made peace with General Wayne, on the supposition that they should collect in force to oppose him, that *Brant* and *Corn Planter* Should be true, and that hostilities should commence between Great Britain and the United States, if such a combination of events had happened at this present season of the year, I should have felt myself justified for the good of the King's service in attempting to execute the following series of operations.

A similar conjuncture is, my Lord, not likely now to happen, but it is possible that detached *parts* of the arrangement may hereafter come under Your Lordship's consideration I am sure that you will favorably receive the present communication, tho' nothing should be offered but what is perfectly familiar to Your Lordship in respect to the defensive part of the plan, or that may appear too hazardous in regard to Your Lordship's general view in that which leads to offensive expedition.

I have the honour to be, with the utmost Respect
My Lord &c.

J. G. Simcoe.

The Right Honorable Lord Dorchester.

Endorsed: D. J. G. S.
In Lt. Govr. Simcoe's No. 12 to the Duke of Portland of 20th Decr. 1794.

[Q 281-1, p 155]

COL. JOHN CAMPBELL TO THOMAS ASTON COFFIN.

SIR, MONTREAL, the 20th March 1794.

In obedience to Lord Dorchester's desire signified to me by your Letter of the 10th Instant, be pleased to acquaint his Lordship in answer thereto, that I have endeavoured to make the discovery therein required, but have not succeeded sufficiently to lay the charge to any in particular, that the first I heard of it was said to have been repeated in the Coffee house by persons who were present at the Council, that the next was ten day's after the return of the Indians from Quebec, when they with the Chiefs in general requested to be received in Council to inform me with what passed there, that when they had done repeating all that they had said, by the voice of their speaker, he handed me His Excellency's reply thereto, of which I had a copy taken & returned the original to Monsr. Lorimier whom I have not seen since.

I am Sir &c.

JOHN CAMPBELL.

To Thomas Aston Coffin, Esq.

Endorsed: B.
In Lord Dorchester's to Mr. Dundas No. 22 of the 28th March 1794.

[Q 67, p 170]

GENERAL ANTHONY WAYNE'S SPEECH TO THE SIX NATIONS.

To all the Sachems, Chiefs & Warriors of the Six Nations.

BROTHERS,

We have all to lament the unfortunate death of Captain Bigtree who put an end to his existence about two months since. I made every enquiry into the cause of his death, and ordered thirteen of my warriors to examine the Body, and give me their opinion in writing under their hands & seal, which I now send to you by our friend Mr. Rosecrantz.

A few days after his arrival three Delawares arrived at this Cantonment with a flag & a message from the hostile Indians proposing to me to fix a time & place for holding a treaty in order to agree upon the terms on which peace should be made, I now send you a copy of that message together with my answer which will be delivered to you by Mr. Rosecrantz.

Captain Bigtree was present & heard the message from the hostile Indians to me, and my answer to that message.

I then made this short speech to the Delaware Messengers.

NEPHEWS,

I call you, because you have always acknowledged the Six Nations your uncles, I am pleased to find that your pride is lowered & that you begin to come to your reason, you were too proud last summer to listen to the Commissioners of the thirteen fires & your uncles.

I will only just inform you that the voice of the Thirteen fires is the voice of the Six Nations, therefore tell your chiefs & warriors to listen to the voice of their great chiefs tell them immediately to comply with his demands & deliver up all the Prisoners within the course of thirty days, and not to neglect, if they wish to see their children grow up to be men & women.

That same night Captain Bigtree had some angry talk with the Delawares whether he ate or drank with them afterwards, or whether they gave him something which put him out of his reason afterwards I cannot tell, but certain it is that from that time to the moment of his Death he was melancholy & deranged untill the last moment of his death when stabbing himself with his own knife.

BROTHERS,

I have now told you every thing that has taken place & all that was said to and with the hostile Indians, since which I have not seen nor heard any thing further from them, except that they murder our People & steal our Horses whenever they have an opportunity, so that all prospect of peace is now done away, I have therefore every reason to believe that the only object the hostile Indians had in view was to Reconnoitre our Situation & to see our numbers & to gain time to collect their Warriors from their different hunting camps in order to fight us & continue the war.

BROTHERS,

I was informed by Captain Bigtree that many of our People had died last Summer in consequence of something you had eat, when at the Council with the hostile Indians at the Rapids of the Miami of the Lake & that my friend & Brother the new arrow is among the dead; and that my good friend Captain O'Bale was also near dying for which heart has been sorry. This mode of making war is cowardly & base and Captain Bigtree was determined to have revenge had he lived—this they will know & are glad that he is dead.

Brothers,

I have sent cloathing for the wife & daughter of Captain Bigtree by Mr. Rosecrantz and a Suit of mourning to his two brothers & a Rifle to each.

I have also ordered the commanding officer of Fort Frankling to build a House for them & to give them plenty of Provisions & everything they may want & to provide for & take care of them.

Anthony Wayne.

Major General & Commander in Chief of the Legion of the United States.

Grenville, 26th March 1794.

Endorsed: B.
In Lord Dorchester's No. 42 to Mr. Dundas of the 28th July 1794.

[Q 68, p 225]

LORD DORCHESTER TO HENRY DUNDAS, SEC'Y.

Quebec, 28th March 1794.

Sir,

By advices received yesterday from Upper Canada it appears [A.] General Wayne has built two Forts, one called Fort Grenville the position of which is not exactly known; the second Fort Recovery is erected on the ground where the action was fought the 4th November 1791.

The broken condition of the Indian [B.] Confederacy is now further manifested by the Delawares having made separate overtures of peace to General Wayne; in consequence of his answer [C.] a Council was to be held in a few days by the Chiefs of the different Nations of which Mr. Wayne will no doubt take advantage to advance further into their Country agreeably to his declaration that the progress of his army was not to be retarded or molested.

Instead of a direct answer to the Proposal for a Boundary Line, made in the Council held at Buffaloe Creek in October last, [D] General Chapin delivered a message from the President of the United States to the Six Nations in which he desires a conference may be held at Venango in the middle of May, and that in the meantime the army of the United States, may be at liberty to act as circumstances shall require.

The kindling a Council Fire at a distance was a proposal the

Indians were not prepared to reply to, & has caused some embarrassment, they have however promised to send an answer soon.

I am with great Regard & Esteem, Sir
Your most obedient
& most humble Servant.

DORCHESTER.

Right Honorable Henry Dundas.

Endorsed: Quebec, 28th March 1794.
The Rt. Honble Lord Dorchester No. 21. Ansd. (Four Inclosures.)

[Q 67, p 149]

LORD DORCHESTER TO HENRY DUNDAS, SEC'Y.

[No. 22.]

QUEBEC, 28 March 1794.

SIR,

Having been informed that copies of my Reply to the Indians at the Council held at Quebec the 10th February, were soon after circulated in a very public manner at Montreal, and that transcripts [A.] had been sent into the United States. I wrote to Col. Campbell, desiring him to trace out & report from what quarter such indiscreet & improper conduct had [B.] proceeded, but his answer not being satisfactory I caused further directions to be sent him to that end. I do not consider this matter as of very great consequence, but it is highly proper to ascertain to whom the blame is imputable.

The frequent Embezzlement & Frauds in the Indian Department at Michilimacinac, notwithstanding the vigilance of the officer, have induced me to put the Indian affairs of that Post under the superintendence of Col. McKee, this gentleman has always been very correct & regular in his Accounts & Proceedings, both in form & substance, and in every respect appears to be a zealous & intelligent officer.

[C.] I enclose the Commanding officers narrative & statement [D.] of the Embezzlement made there in January 1793.

I am with great respect & Esteem Sir
Your most obedt huml. Servant

DORCHESTER.

The Rt. Honble Henry Dundas, &c. &c. &c.

Endorsed: Quebec, 28th March 1794.
The Rt. Honble Lord Dorchester.
R. 10th June. No. 22. Ansd. (Four Inclosures.)

[Q 67, p 167]

INDIAN SPEECH.

Speech of the Shawanese, Delawares, Miamis, Mingoes &ca together with Deputies from the Wabash Nations.

To His Excellency Lieut Governor Simcoe, delivered to Captain Elliot at the Glaize, on the 14th day of April 1794.

FATHER,

We salute you, & thank you for your speech you have sent us, which was delivered by our Father at Quebec to the Seven Nations of Canada.

FATHER,

You have set our hearts right, and we are now happy to see you standing on your feet in our Country, for we have long wished and expected you, to send some of your Warriors among us. We your children now assure you that we are still of the same mind and are firmly resolved to defend our Country. Be you strong also Father in giving your good advice to your children upon the Lakes that they may speedily join us.

FATHER,

We are in great want of necessaries and we hope you will direct the supplies, benevolently afforded us by our Great Father, to be given to us soon.

FATHER,

We are now on our feet, and if the Powtawatamies, Wyandots & others, do not join us by Tomorrow, we shall ourselves advance against the Big Knives, and endeavour to stop their progress. We have called upon the Kikapoos & Ouias, who now seem inclined to join us.

FATHER,

With these strings of Wampum we shake you by the hand and wish you health with all our hearts.

Four strings of Wampum.

J. G. S.

Endorsed: C.
In Lord Dorchester's No. 31 to Mr. Dundas of the 7 June 1794.

[Q 69-1, p 36]

LORD DORCHESTER TO COL. J. G. SIMCOE.

QUEBEC, 16 April 1794.

SIR,

The present hostile appearances rendering it necessary that Upper Canada for its own defence should be enabled to bring forth its full strength for any sudden emergency, I beg to be informed of the Force Condition and Disposition of your Militia, distinguishing those Parts of your Province where the Population renders them respectable in point of numbers, and the Force they may conveniently assemble at those different Places, and how they are armed and prepared to resist Invasion.

More particularly I desire to know what number might be assembled on the side of Niagara, Detroit and Kingston together with any other circumstances that may tend to shew the extent of their Powers.

I am with Regard Sir
Your most obedient
humble Servant
DORCHESTER.

Colonel Simcoe.

Endorsed: C.
In Lord Dorchester's No. 24 to Mr. Dundas of the 26 April 1794.

[Q 67, p 202]

LORD DORCHESTER TO HENRY DUNDAS, SEC'Y.

[No. 23.]

QUEBEC, 26th April 1794.

SIR,

I have had the honor of receiving your circular letter, inclosing the King's order "for opening a commercial intercourse with such "parts of the Island of Saint Domingo as are or shall be in His "Majesty's possession, which I caused to be made public as directed.

[A.] I inclose copies of a further [B] correspondence with Colonel Campbell concerning the publication of my reply to the late Indian deputation.

Colonel Simcoe in a letter dated Mohawk Village, Grand River, the 26th March, informs me he had got so far on his way to Detroit, where he is going in order to take the necessary means for occupying a Post, on the Miamis River.

I am with great regard
& esteem Sir
Your most obedient
humble Servant
DORCHESTER.

Right Honorable Henry Dundas.

Endorsed: Quebec, 26th April 1794.
The Rt. Honble Lord Dorchester.
R. 16th July. Ansd. No. 23. (Two Inclosures.)

[Q 67, p 186]

LT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE TO LORD DORCHESTER.

Extracts from Lieut Governor Simcoe's letter to Lord Dorchester, dated Navy Hall Upper Canada, April 29th 1794.

"I do myself the honour of informing Your Lordship that on "the 10th of April, I established a detachment of His Majesty's "Troops on the Miamis River agreeably to Your Lordship's direc- "tion, and in the position which will be explained to you by the "enclosed sketch of Lieutenant Pilkington's the Engineer."

"The Principle, which I have adopted as the best means of pre- "venting Mr. Wayne from forcing the passage of the Miamis, is "by placing a Fort in such a position that it may be easy of "access from the River, be readily supplied by water Carriage with "provisions, and should it be invested, that the islands in the river "and the distance of the opposite banks might afford opportunities "of every assistance being given to the post by such a force, as "could be collected, and which might possibly operate to advantage "on some separate points, which so wide an extent of ground may "probably be supposed to render assailable.

"Should Mr. Wayne leave the post in his rear and move to "Detroit, It is apparent that he must give a fair opening for strik- "ing at his communications for sixty miles in extent: Under this "circumstance I should immediately endeavor to occupy a Camp at "Turkey Point with all the Force I should collect and unite, com-

"bining the advantages of the command of the Water and of our "superiority in Artillery.

"I have directed a Log House defensible against musquetry to "be built at Turtle Island, and another at the River aux Raisins, "and merlons of Logs in the Hog pen manner to be provided at "those posts which being filled as occasion shall require will give "the means of speedily erecting adequate Batteries, and in the mean "time these houses will become intermediate deposits, absolutely "necessary to the security of the navigation. I have also desired "Colonel England to pay particular attention to the instruction of "as many soldiers as possible in the Artillery exercise, and on the "approach of Mr. Wayne I should not hesitate to withdraw from "Detroit all the Troops but those sufficient to defend Fort Ler-"noult, and most certainly to drive away or consume all the cattle "in the vicinity. I do not find My Lord, that the Sandusky or "any other River affords by its collateral branches any means of "striking into Wayne's rear should he descend the Miamis. It "seems probable that should he penetrate as far as Roche de bout, "he would then change his direction, at least if the possession of "Detroit be his aim, and passing by the heads of the small rivers "which run between the Detroit and the Miamis without the inter-"vention of any difficult ground, from Swamps or thick woods he "would have an easy march of not more than sixty miles to the Detroit.

"If therefore sufficient time shall be allowed for the properly "fortifying of the Miamis Fort and that its guns shall be of a "larger calibre than what Mr. Wayne can bring against it I should "hope that Your Lordships views in the establishment of a post "in the Miamis would be as successful as they are decisive and "provident." J. G. S.

Endorsed: C.
In Lt. Governor Simcoe's No. 12 to the Duke of Portland of the 20th Decr. 1794.

[Q 281–1, p 152]

LT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE TO LORD DORCHESTER.

Extract of a letter from Lieut Governor Simcoe to the Right Honourable Lord Dorchester, dated Navy Hall April 29th 1794

"The Indians on the Wabash have quitted the lower parts of that River, and by their approximation to Detroit (should not Mr. Wayne advance) the benefits of their Trade will return into the

accustomed channel. This movement has exceedingly alarmed the Settlers at Vincennes.

"It appears that the Chippewas, in consequence of some superstitious circumstances have unanimously determined upon War.

"There is every appearance of the most general union of the Indians, against the United States, that has yet been known.

"General Wayne was by the last account at the picquetted Camp (or Polanque) at Grenville, covered by Redoubts a quarter of a mile in its front; I transmit to Your Lordship such a sketch of his Line of march as can be collected, and in some degree improved from Hutchins map.

"The last accounts from the Indians are, that General Wayne has sent a thousand men beyond the Ohio, as the prisoners they took impounded them, on the account of the war on the coast—they say they saw the Troops on their march; some event possibly may have happened that has changed his apparent resolutions, as your Lordship will perceive by the sketch that he had cut a road in a different direction from Sinclair's projected march, pointing not to the Miamis Towns, but to the navigable waters of the Glaize, which has confirmed the Reports of the Indians, now publicly mentioned in the American newspapers, that he had expressed himself "That he hoped to drink with them of the waters of Lake Erie."

"It is given out he is to march in May, and I presume some hundred of the Indians are now sett off to oppose him & strike at his convoys."

End: A.
In Lord Dorchester's No. 31 to Mr. Dundas of the 7 June 1794.

[Q 69–1, p 33]

LT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE TO LORD DORCHESTER.

Extract of a Letter from Lieut Govr. Simcoe to the Right Honble Lord Dorchester, dated Navy Hall April 29th 1794.

"I must observe to Your Lordship that a few days previous to my arrival at the Miamis a Speech had been sent by the Spanish Lieutenant Governor, to the neigbouring Nations and which had been transmitted to Detroit, calling upon them for their assistance and promising the most active support, this Speech it is believed has produced the most important effects, scarcely leaving

a single Indian nation without the determined resolution of attacking the United States, in particular the Chickesaws before the departure of the Shawanese, had cut off ten of the Kaskaskias suspected of being well affected to the United States.

Endorsed: F.
In Lord Dorchester's No. 31 to Mr. Dundas the 7 June 1794.

[Q 69–1, p 44]

MEMORIAL OF THOMAS REYNOLDS FOR LAND AT DETROIT.

At the Council Chamber, Newark, in the County of Lincoln, Tuesday May 27th 1794.

Present

His Excellency John Graves Simcoe Esqr. Lieut Governor
The Honble. Wm. Osgoode, Chief Justice
The Honble Peter Russell.

Thomas Reynolds, Assist. Comy Detroit,

Read his Memorial praying for lands on the River Thames, between Lot No 19 1st Township & No 6 in the second Township in front.

Ordered, that two front lots be granted petitioner on the north side of the River, and one thousand acres for his Family as near thereto as may be, referred for that purpose to the Surveyor General.

[Q 282–2, p 364]

LORD DORCHESTER TO HENRY DUNDAS, SEC'Y.

[No. 31.]

QUEBEC, 7th June 1794.

SIR,

[A.] The last accounts from Upper [B] Canada continue to represent the Indian [C] Confederacy as daily encreasing in strength.

The preparations under the influence of French intrigue, for [D] an attack upon the Province of Louisiana, [E] excited the vigilance of the Spanish [F] Governor, who took measures to secure the

Indians to the Southward, so that from North to South there is at present an appearance of their being united.

The inclosed sketches [G] will shew the position taken on the Miamis of Lake Erie; with that we formerly occupied there and abandoned soon [H] after the peace: also the Route pursued by General Wayne last fall in his expedition into the Indian Country.

Reports from Niagara say the States have a large body of troops at Presqu' Isle on Lake Erie

I am with great respect & esteem
Sir Your most obedient
humble servant
DORCHESTER.

The Right Honble Henry Dundas.

End: Quebec, 7th June 1794.
Ld. Dorchester.
R. 20 Septr. No. 31. Ansd. (Eight Inclosures.)

[Q 69–1, p 31]

INDIAN COUNCIL.

Proceedings of a Council holden at Buffaloe Creek 18th June 1794.

Present

The principal Sachems, Chiefs and Warriors of the Six Nations.

From the United States, General Chapin with his attendants.

From Upper Canada Mr. Johnston the Interpreter of the Indian Department.

Captain Obail Speaker, Mr. Horatio Jones, Interpreter.

BROTHER,

We are thankful that you have attended to the call of the Six Nations and that you have been preserved by the Great Spirit.

Captain Obail then informed Gen. Chapin that the following address was directed to the President of the United States.

BROTHER,

I have for a long time aimed at the good of both parties. I have paid you different compliments, as that of Brother, father and now I call you friend, we were pleased when we heard that you were appointed to have the Chief command of the United States.

BROTHER,

The great spirit has so ordered, that every nation shall have some one to be their head, you are to look over your people, and

settle all difficulties that you will not be unmindful of us, but see that we have justice done, as well as your own people.

BROTHERS,

We the Six Nations now call upon you. We pay no attention to what has heretofore been done by Congress, their proceedings we consider as unjust, we wish for nothing but justice, and hope that it may take place.

BROTHER,

You know our demands, we ask but for a small piece of Land, and we trust as you are a great man, you can easily grant our request.

BROTHER,

You wish to be a free people in this Country, who have come from the other side of the water, and settled here, and why should we not, whose forefathers have lived and died here and always had possession of the Country.

BROTHERS,

We the Six Nations have determined on the boundary we want established, and it is the warriors who now speak.

BROTHER,

You have the map on which the boundaries are marked out, which we want established.

BROTHERS,

We want room for our children, it will be hard for them not to have a Country to live in after that we are gone.

BROTHERS,

It is not because that we are afraid of dying that we have so long been trying to bring about a peace.

We now call upon you for an answer, as Congress and their Commissioners have often times deceived us. If these difficulties are not removed the consequence may be bad.

This Speech was delivered with eight strings of Black & White Wampum.

BROTHERS,

We have opened this fire upon two different kinds of business, we wish you to listen to them with attention.

BROTHERS,

We are in distress, a number of our warriors are missing and we know not what has become of them, but suppose that they have been killed by the Americans.

BROTHER,

Last fall an Indian Chief by the name of Bigtree left this Country and went to the American army in a friendly manner, and we have since been informed that he was killed by them.

BROTHERS,

The other day a very unfortunate circumstance happened, one of our nephews (of the Delaware Nation) was killed at Venango, by a party of warriors who was sent to Presqu' Isle without giving us any notice whatever.

BROTHERS,

You are sensible this must be very hard to have a man killed in time of peace, one who was sitting easy and peaceable on his seat, you certainly would complain if we were to treat your people in this manner.

BROTHER,

It has been customary when one person has been killed by another, that those who have done the injury go to the injured party and make satisfaction.

BROTHER,

We told you that we had two pieces of business to attend to, we hope that you will pay attention to them both.

BROTHER,

The establishing of a garrison at Presque Isle may occasion many accidents as the Southern Indians may do injury, and we may be blamed without a cause.

This speech was delivered with Ten strings of Black Wampum Captain Obail then addressed himself to General Chapin.

BROTHER,

When we sent for you, it was because we placed great dependance upon you, we expected that you would not fail of doing every thing in your power to assist us.

BROTHER,

We expect that you will exert yourself in removing these people off of our Lands—We know very well what they are come on for, and we wish to have them pushed back.

BROTHER,

We now wish that you and Mr Johnson would go together and move these people back over the Line which we have marked out upon the map.

BROTHER,

If these people remove off immediately we shall consider them as friends, if not, we shall consider them as no friends.

BROTHER,

We expect that you and Mr Johnson, will go together on this business and we shall send ten warriors to attend you, and we shall expect that you will bring us word when you return.

This speech was delivered with Six Strings of Black & White Wampum.

General Chapins answer to the speech delivered by Captain Obail.

BROTHERS,

I have heard the speeches which you have delivered with good attention, and thought seriously on what you have communicated to me, you have requested Mr Johnson and myself to go to Presque Isle—as I wish to do every thing in my power both for the United States and the Indians, I shall comply with your request.

BROTHERS,

I can do no more to those people than to give them my advice. It is not in my power to drive them off.

BROTHERS,

You must be sensible that I am obliged to look to the interest both of the United States and the Indians, and consider myself accountable to both for whatever I do, and you may depend that when I return I will give you a just account of whatever takes place.

BROTHERS,

This business is of a serious nature and is really a matter of importance to both parties you may rest assured the President is your friend and that he will pay attention to the business which you have laid before him.

BROTHERS,

You observed that you would send ten warriors to accompany me, I must also request that you would send ten of your Chiefs.

BROTHERS,

The business which you desire me to do, is what I had little thought of, I am unprepared for the journey, however as I have informed you that I would go, I shall set out immediately.

BROTHERS,

The speeches which you have delivered for the President shall be sent on, as soon as is convenient, and you may shortly expect to receive an answer.

J. G. S.

[Q 280–1, p 195]

LT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE TO HENRY DUNDAS, SEC'Y.

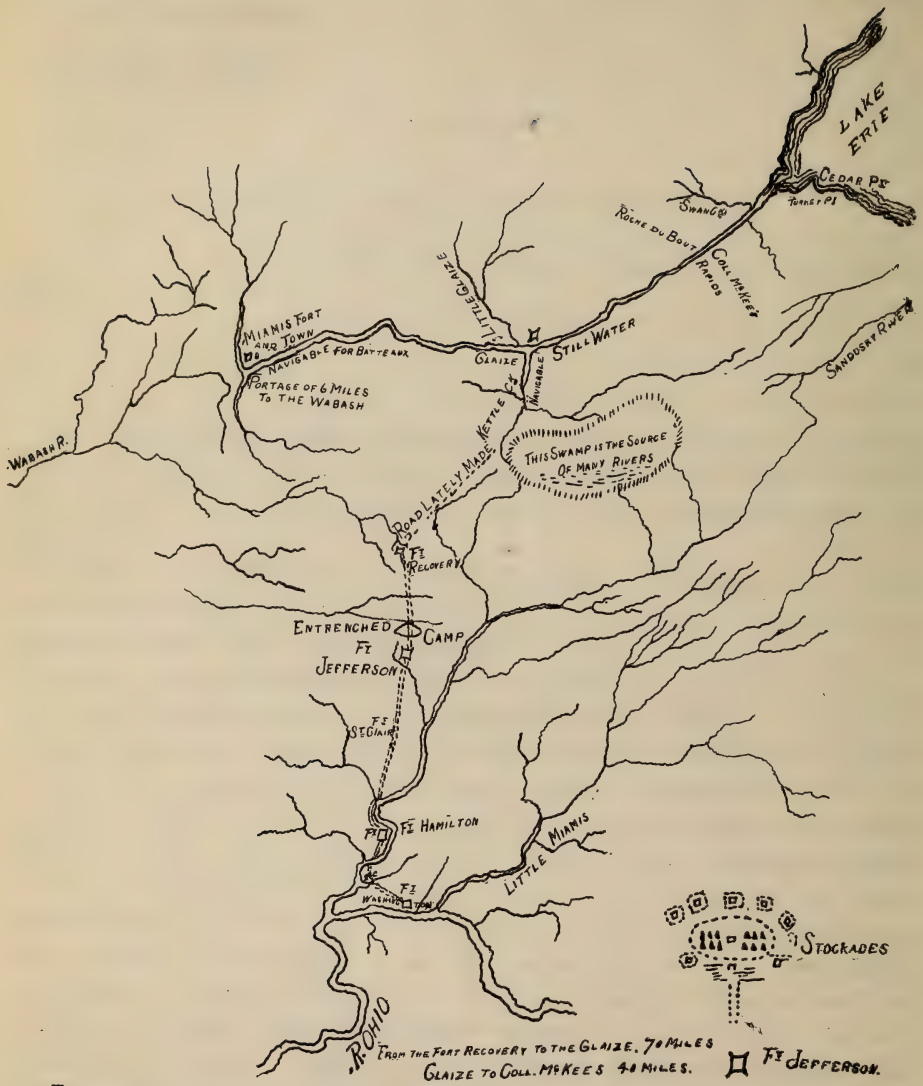
[No. 24.]

NAVY HALL, UPPER CANADA, June 21st 1794.

SIR,

In respect to the Indian Department Lord Dorchester has appointed Colonel McKee to the additional Superintendancy of Michillimackinac, vacant by the supercession of the late Superintendant for defalcation.

I have just transmitted to His Lordship the result of a Court of Enquiry into the Indian Stores at this place, by which it appears there has been a defalcation of nearly one half of the Quantity, these circumstances tho' of sufficient magnitude as they not only defraud the King, but deprive his Government of the good effects which the benevolence of the nation is calculated to effect among the Indians; are still very inferior considerations to the political Interest that it is necessary to manage among the Indian Nations, which require a perpetual vigilance and incessant attention; that from the circumstances of the Capriciousness of these people, and the seduction of the agents of the United States cannot possibly be managed in all its variations by the Commander in Chief in Lower Canada, or a Superintendant General residing in that Province and occasionally visiting this Country. In this Spirit it is that I wish to see Colonel McKee, a man of real ability and sound Loyalty, at the Board of the Executive Council of this Country, and as President of a Committee, Superintending upon the spot the General policy of the Indian Nations, as well as the controul of the King's Presents and the specific and systematic mode of their delivery; and reporting thro' me as civil Lieutenant Governor, or as commanding the King's Troops to Lord Dorchester.



ENDORSED.—IN LIEUT. GOR SIMCOE'S [No 21] OF JUNE 1794. [No 2]

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MAP OF GEN. WAYNE'S ROUTE.

I shall give every encouragement to the settling the communication between Lake Huron and York Harbour.

Of course from the events on the Continent I did not expect, Sir, that the Regiments in this Country could be filled up by recruits from Europe. I only lament that I am not now in possession of the Posts, whose importance I so constantly have displayed—should it be possible to recruit in this Country, which I doubt, I shall hope that Lord Dorchester will alter his opinion, and allow me to occupy them.

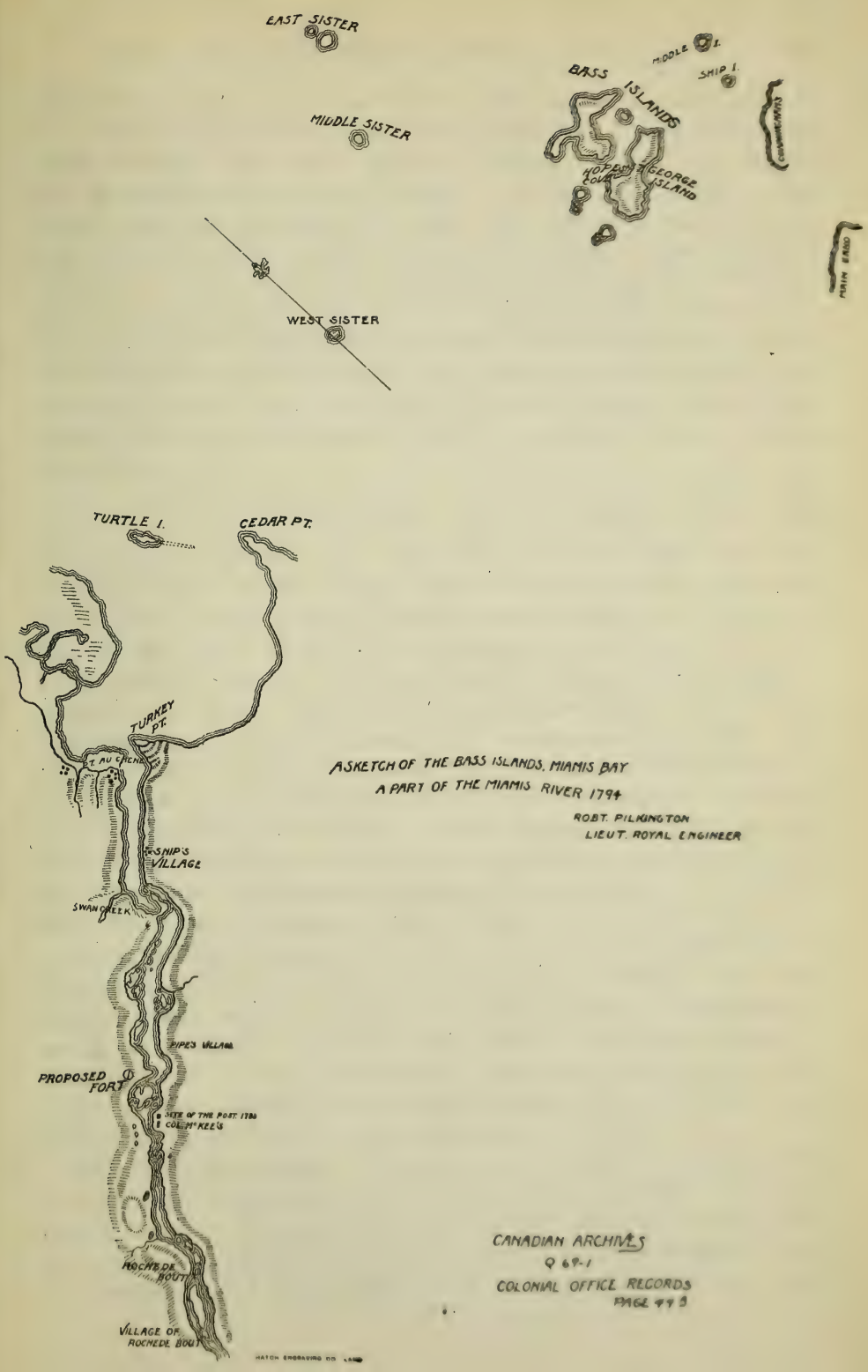
I enclose for your perusal, Sir, the proceedings of the late Council held at Buffaloe Creek by the Six Nations. I have not been deceived in my conjecture of Brant; He has Joined, with all descriptions of persons in this Country in construing the occupation of the Post at the Miamis River, and Lord Dorchester's Speech to the Seven Nations, into a certainty of Great Britain's being engaged in Hostilities with the United States. He has acted with firmness and vigour. The Corn Planter has also openly declared himself ready to obey any Instructions He shall receive from me his *best Friend*; the union of these powerful chiefs, and the reconciliation of the Six Nations (Oneidas excepted) will I trust be productive of the best effects to the King's Interests—their present intention is to remove to Buffaloe Creek, which I have not opposed, or should any arrangements take place with the United States, and from the total silence of Your dispatch Sir, on the subject I entertain some hopes, that such will be the case, the vicinity of Buffaloe Creek and the means I shall now make use of to confirm the chiefs in their attachment to His Majesty will I trust prevent on this side, those Ill effects which must otherwise be naturally expected to result from the measures which have lately been taken on the principles of self defence; and under the apprehension of which, I have stated to Lord Dorchester last April "that It must be evident "to Your Lordship from the effect which the late transactions has "had in respect to the Indians, there can be no safety for this "Province, and of course British America should they be abandoned "to themselves and not confirmed in their just claims by the deter-"mined and avowed mediation of Great Britain.

General Wayne's Army is probably advancing, I hope but I am by no means confident, that the Indians will effectually oppose him It may give you Sir some satisfaction to see the General course of his march as far as can be ascertained by deserters &c I therefore transmit the sketch. I also beg to offer you one of the Post

at the Miamis. It includes *Turtle Island* which I mean to occupy and to combine all the defences of Land Batteries, Gun Boats and the Shipping to prevent if possible Mr Wayne from obtaining any supplies from Presque-Isle or elsewhere, by that channel, and it exhibits the Islands in the Erie and shews their very great consequence to the future navigation of the Lake.

There appears to me to be a greater difficulty in raising men in this Country as proposed for the Canadian Corps preparatory to a War, than perhaps Sir should it unfortunately take place, may happen at its commencement, or during its continuance, no industry on my part shall be wanting, Sir, to fullfill your Intentions, and I trust that the King's Service shall not be betrayed by inactivity or indecision. I have a firm hope that the Legislature of this Country will in all cases arm me with sufficient power in the defence of the Laws and His Majesty's Rights to oppose all who contravene them; and to set at defiance those principles of terror by which the late American revolution was carried into effect and if such be the necessity to meet it with equal and commanding Security.

I trust if I remain in the Military Command in this Country that I shall be enabled to establish a defensible Military Arsenal. The States of America will at once overwhelm this Colony or they will have all to dread in their turn. I have never offered an Idea tending to contradict that line of policy which His Majesty's Ministers have thought proper to adopt in respect to the placing of the Indian Land as an intermediate Boundary, I have shaped my course, Sir, most industriously, by Your Instructions; I have reconciled the Senacas and Brant with whom otherwise He declares he never would have been connected, and as their manner is, have received the name of the Original founder of the League of the Six Nations to mark that event. The western Indians are also attached to the King's Government, while those near to Montreal, The St. Rejis and Caghuawage Indians are unfortunately disaffected —but, Sir, in my provisionary Establishments, I have certainly been guarding against events that may happen and which I do not look upon with any degree of apprehension namely the approximation of the United States to the Lakes. I am persuaded that a successful War on this side, or possibly a repulse of the first Incursions will operate to occasion the Colonies of the United States (for such I consider all establishments on this side of the Alleganeys) and Kentucky to throw off their dependencies—but should this measure



A SKETCH OF THE BASS ISLANDS, MIAMIS BAY
A PART OF THE MIAMIS RIVER 1794

ROBT. PILKINGTON
LIEUT. ROYAL ENGINEER

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be affected by the slower yet more certain operations of peace, it is to me apparent that Competent Establishments of Troops and fortified Harbours must for a while be kept at in this province to awe its Neighbours whether Indians or Whites and to give to the Country efficient protection, For Sir, tho' few men from Birth or Education are apt to consider Naval protection in a more estimable light than I do, a respect for truth obliges me to say, that its operations on a defensive System, are far too precarious to be the sole, or even in my apprehension, the most certain obstacle against the designs of an able adversary Superior in the number of Troops and in the means of feeding them, and such will be the force of the United States, if it once be permitted to carry on offensive warfare against this Colony.

The variety of business which my station has of late required, and which for want of proper assistance, has totally fallen upon myself, prevents me at present, Sir, from arranging those materials which I collected for a report to the Lords of the Council for trade—but circumstances seem to require that I should give you information Sir, on one point which will be contained in that memoir. It is to establish a Factory on the Western side of the Mississippi opposite the mouth of the Ouisconsin, this factory to have no monopolizing privileges of trade, their advantages to be the occupancy of the Territory purchased and the regular distribution of the presents to be furnished by the Crown *annually* to the Indian Nations who have sold the Soil; annual presents also must be given at Michillimackinac &c. as *tributes* for the passing of the Foxes River and Ouisconsin to the several Nations; these presents to be deducted from the general allowance to the Indians and not additional.

The advantages proposed are many a post on the Mississippi and Harbour capable of building Gun Boats are the Military ones. The present seems to be a moment in which such an establishment would be acceptable rather than give cause of Jealousy to Spain, as I gather from general circumstances and the Letter of the Governor of New Orleans to me which without doubt has been communicated to you Sir by the Commander in Chief.

When Sir, His Majesty's Forces in the late war abandoned Philadelphia, and before their arrival at New York, I offered under the general Idea of the war being terminated to lead my own Regiment and other provincials into this Country. I then collected from information, and I now believe that it might be held by Great

Britain even should Lower Canada be lost; I am still of that opinion, and tho' I most fervently pray that no such event may happen, yet on this extreme necessity, I should be far from thinking myself subdued, or not endeavour at a proper assistance.

Lower Canada at the first appearance would seem not to depend upon the loss or preservation of the Upper Province; I am of opinion it might prove otherwise should the experiment be made.

The Province of New York, by the route of Lake Simcoe and Matchadosh Bay would at once possess itself of the Fur Trade. The Indians would be subdued and probably Quebec soon invaded and besieged.

I merely sketch out this Idea, Sir, to shew you that I look upon Niagara and its independencies, York and Long Point, of the utmost Importance in the greatest scale of events; that they are so or inferior considerations I think I shall establish when I shall transmit my observations to Lord Dorchester on the St Lawrence.

This Letter will be delivered to you Sir, by Captain Talbot who returns to England upon promotion, and who having lived in my family ever since I have been in Upper Canada and been employed on the most confidential intercourse between me, Mr. Hammond and Colonel McKee and having accompanied me in my several Journeys is capable of communicating to you Sir, any Information you may be pleased to require, on the several subjects which I have offered to you in my various dispatches and on the existing State of this Province.

I have the honor to be with the Greatest Respect.
Sir Your most obedient
and very Humble Servant
J. G. Simcoe,
Lt. Governor of Upper Canada.

The Right Honorable Henry Dundas, &c. &c. &c.

Endorsed: Navy Hall, 21st June 1794.
Lt. Govr. Simcoe.
R. 22d Sept. No. 25. Ansd. Three Inclosures.

[Q 280–1, p 178]

COUNCIL HELD AT FORT LE BOEUF.

Mr. Johnson and General Chapin with sixteen chief warriors proceeded to Fort Le Boeuf where they arrived the 26th June.

27th. The Speeches to the president as well as the request of the Six Nations were delivered in Council to Mr. Ellicott and the officer commanding there, to which they returned the following answer.

BROTHERS OF THE SIX NATIONS,

Your Brothers of Pennslyvania have always been attentive to the Interest of the Indians especially to that of the Six Nations and are happy to meet them in peace & unity.

BROTHERS,

We have heard your Message by General Chapin and William Johnston and have considered the request.

BROTHERS,

By the peace of 1782, the King of Great Britain ceded to your Brethren of Pennsylvania all the Lands which they claim but from a regard to justice and considering you as the real owners of the soil could not consider themselves as entitled to it untill fairly purchased from yourselves.

BROTHERS,

The Lands which you have requested us to move off of, have for several years been purchased by your Brothers of Pennsylvania from the Six Nations and the Lines bounding the same were opened and marked with their consent and approbation. The Purchase North, of the North Boundary of Pennsylvania, west of Canewango River Lake Chalaqua and the path leading from thence to Lake Erie and South of the said was made of your Chiefs at Fort Harmar by General Butler and General Gibson and the Money & goods were punctually paid to them.

BROTHERS,

Your Brethren of Pennsylvania have fairly and openly made purchase of all the Lands to which they lay claim and having sold these Lands to such People as chose to settle and work them they think it now their duty to protect such settlers from the depredations of all such persons as may molest them.

BROTHERS,

The present Military preparations of your Brethren of Pennsylvania are intended to protect their citizens against the western

Hostile Indians only, not supposing any protection necessary against the Six Nations whom they consider as their friends & allies.

Brothers,

The Line which you have marked on this map will take back from your Brothers of Pennsylvania a large tract of Land which they have purchased from you. We cannot therefore consistently with our duty remove from those Lands, unless directed by the Great Council of our People, to whom we shall immediately send your Message.

Brothers,

We should be sorry that our continuing on the Lands which you have sold to your Brethren of Pennsylvania should be the cause of any uneasiness or why we should not be considered by you as Friends.

Brothers,

Your Brethren of Pennsylvania are a generous People—they have never wished for more than they were willing to pay for and have never attempted to take what did not belong to them, they will be glad to meet you at all times and afford relief to the weak & hungry of your people who may take the trouble to come & see them at this place, in the mean time as we are ordered here by the General Council your Brothers of Pennsylvania, we cannot consistent with our duty remove from hence untill orders come from them for that purpose, your message however shall be immediately forwarded by Express to them for their consideration.

Signed { Andrew Ellicot.
C. Denny, Capt. State Troops.

Fort Le Boeuf, 26th June 1794.
Thomas Nesbitt,
Secretary.

General Chapin & Mr. Johnson with the chief warriors having returned to Buffaloe Creek, met the chiefs in Council on the 4th July, when after relating the answer of the People at Fort Le Boeuf, and the usual compliments had passed, O'Bale a principal Seneca Chief addressed the following Speech to General Washington.

Brother,

I now call you Friend, attend the voice of the Six Nations, who have been united & loved each other since the beginning of the world. We have assembled here on account of the Transactions

near Presqu' Isle & we have received an answer to the message we had sent, the answer from the People at Fort Le Boeuf hints upon every thing that has taken place since the peace, the greatest part of what they have told us is not true, they have related some of the former Deceptions, they have told me that they had given me land, but to compleat my wishes, I desire that all the Six Nations may have Lands, I depend upon you General Washington, to grant our request, and make our minds easy, for many reflections are thrown upon me by the Six Nations I am almost determined to rise from my Birth and die with them.

BROTHER,

We know what we have received from the United States from time to time, we fully considered the Boundary, and we are determined it shall remain, if you establish this Line I think we will be about even.

BROTHER,

If you do not comply we shall determine upon something else, you know that we are a free People, and that the Six Nations are able to defend themselves. We are determined to maintain our freedom.

BROTHER,

Do not imagine that our minds are corrupted by other people, the only thing that can corrupt them will be a refusal of our Demands.

BROTHER,

If our request is not granted I wish that my son may be sent with the answer and tell me which side he means to join for he is at liberty to do as he likes.

BROTHER,

We request that you will send a speedy answer to our speeches, and that the messenger may come to our Council Fire at this place.

Eight Strings of Wampum black & white.

The Speaker then addressed General Chapin

BROTHER,

You who stand between the Indians & the United States we request that you will give every assistance in your power to forward this business, you find us as determined as ever upon the Line between us & the United States, we put confidence in you and request that you will forward our Determination to the people at Fort Le Boeuf and desire them not to move forward.

General Chapin's answer.

BROTHERS,

I am happy the Great Spirit has preserved us to meet again in Council, I have heard with attention the Speeches you have made & have committed them to writing, they have since been explained to you that you might see that there was no Deception.

BROTHERS,

I must give it as my opinion that General Washington is a firm friend to the Six Nations & that he will not by any means see them wronged.

BROTHERS,

I am happy to hear that you look upon yourselves as free & Independent People that is the case with the United States, they are free & Independant and wish to take you by the hand as Brothers; It seems now there is some disputes but the only way to have it settled is to come together face to face and talk the matter over candidly.

BROTHERS,

I shall now return home & forward your speeches to General Washington as soon as possible, in the meantime I hope you will set easy on your seats until you hear General Washington's voice.

BROTHERS,

I always consider myself accountable to the Indians as well as the United States, I aim at the good of both parties and you may rest assured that nothing in my power shall be wanting to assist. I shall prepare a copy of your Determination to be sent on to Le Boeuf provided you send Runners for that purpose.

Endorsed: A.
In Lord Dorchester's No. 42 to Mr. Dundas of the 28 July 1794.

[Q 68, p 218]

LT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE TO HENRY DUNDAS, SEC'Y.

[No. 26.]

NIAGARA, July 3rd 1794.

SIR,

I do myself the honor of acknowledging your dispatch of the 16th March. No 4. I am most sensibly gratified that my conduct in respect to the Commissioners of the United States & the American Indians met with your approbation.

The difficulties of the situation are more easily tolerated than described & consisting of a variety of petty & trifling details cannot Sir, be communicated by letter with that precision which circumstances, possibly, may render necessary.

However seeing in an English Newspaper that the propriety of the Conduct of this Government has been questioned in the House of Lords, & knowing that ultimately it may become the subject of particular discussion; I think it proper to communicate to you Sir, the last speech which has been delivered on my part to the Six Nations, whose determination will soon be of material consequence, together with such observations as may be necessary to elucidate this speech, & which may be considered as a Summary of the transactions of this Government.

It may not be improper to observe, that the original and material aggression of the United States appears to have been their Governments immediately changing the relative situation in which the peace of 1783, had left the contending parties, namely themselves and Great Britain, by endeavouring to possess themselves of the whole of the Indian Territory by fraudulent or by forcible means, & in consequence, by the Annihilation of this intermediate power between them and the British possession occasioning the destruction of the whole of the commerce & endangering the safety of his Majesty's Provinces.

To prove this intended alteration, The Act of Congress for the formation of the New States, & the names given to them by the Committee of which Mr. Jefferson was president are sufficient Evidences.

That it was done by fraudulent means, appears upon the very face of the purchases made from the Indians & his Majesty's honored name is brought into attaint, by the Governors of the Country to give an Sanction to their purposes.

The fraud consists in the affirmation that the Indian Territory has been given away as "The Price of Peace." This is the term which Governor Sinclair made use of & which the Cornplanter, on the 9th of February 1791 intimates in his speech to President Washington to be the language of the People who purchased the Lands from the Indians & demands from him an explanation in the following terms.

"What the Commissioners had said about the Land having been "ceded to them at the Peace, our Chiefs considered as intended "only to lessen the price, & they passed it by with very little "notice, but since that time we have heard so much from others, "about the right to our Lands the King gave when you made Peace

" with him, that it is our earnest desire that you will tell us what " it means."

To this and to other material points the President avoids a reply I presume Sir, that you possess the Speech. It was therefore, a main object of my Determination the moment I read Governor Sinclair's Speech to do away the effects of it as far as in me lay; I did so to the Indian Nations; & their successive Victories having at various times, extorted from the Government of the States satisfactory explanations, that His Majesty has not given away their lands, I used every prudent means in my power to get the Commissioners to Consolidate & substantiate the Declaration, but I believe I should have failed of success, had not the Indian Council refusing to admit them to a Conference unless they would explicitly give up the claims to the ratification of the Treaty of Muskingum, effected by a mixture of fraud & force rendered it necessary for them to give some further explanation, that might so far conciliate the Confidence of the Savages as to induce them to admit the Commissioners to a Personal Treaty, without the absolute promise of what they had no authority to grant.

Upon these Considerations, the Commissioners made, as they chose to term it, the Concession which tho' I formerly transmitted to you Sir, in the Body of the Speech, I think it proper to select upon this particular occasion. This Concession establishes the fact that the Government of the United States thro' its former Commissioners had fraudulently made use of the Kings Name, to wrest the Lands from the Indian Nations, as was particularly exemplified in the Corn Planters most admirable Speech.

(& indeed upon all occasions) and it establishes the fact by the most incontrovertible evidence, & in the most incontrovertible manner, namely that of these Commissioners condeming the claims and constructions of their Predecessors.

The Answer of the Indians to this Speech and to what the Commissioners called the concessions therein contained has been transmitted to you—It is only necessary for me to observe, that so various were the artifices of the United States, & so successful had their Emissaries been, in sowing jealousies & apprehensions among the Indians, that it is reasonable to believe had the Commissioners been once admitted to a personal Conference at their council fire, they would have obtained whatever their prudence or their avarice might have inclined them to have demanded.

It rests only for me to observe, Sir, that I have always considered an Article of the Treaty of Utrecht to be the only authentic Document that defines the State of the Indians, as far as it respects the European Nations, whose line of Demarcation as limited by themselves for their own mutual guidance gives to the Indians & their respective traders the most perfect freedom therein, & considers the natives as entirely independent,—In that Spirit I early suggested to the Merchants of Montreal to consider the Question, & their opinion I had the honor of transmitting to you from Lower Canada. Gordons observation in his History of the late war written under the Sanction of Washington is the most desirable evidence (of what tho' a matter of notoriety would otherwise be denied that the Infringement of the stipulated situation of the Indians on the part of France was the occasion of the former war, & indeed both in the Treaty of Fort Harmar, or Muskingham & with the Cherokees, the United States seem to admit this Article by endeavoring to obviate its effects, in making it an express Stipulation, that no persons shall trade with the Nations with whom they are treating, but by the license of the Governors of the United States; a circumstance which of itself is an aggression as it effects a material change in the situation of the two Countries, subsequently to the Treaty of Peace.

It may therefore be safely affirmed, that the establishment of a Government in Upper Canada, was absolutely necessary for the preservation of the British Commerce against the Aggressions of the United States, & I have the satisfaction to believe that had it been delayed another year, not an Indian nation would have been otherwise than hostile to his Majesty's Subjects, the consequence of which might have been fatal to the British Empire in America.

I offer these observations sir, as elucidatory of the Speech delivered by the Major Brigade Littlehales, & that in case of Hostilities with the United States It may appear as far as respects the Indian Nations, that his Majesty's Government has not been the aggressors: & well knowing that the use of the Indians, which necessarily must enforce (tho' as a Military man I place no dependance on their Assistance) will become the subject of barbarous Declamation. I think it not untimely, to enclose the Evidence of a very respectable man, Capt. Elliot that these very Indians who have made a resistance against the fraud & force of the United States, were at the beginning of the late Rebellion tampered with by the Agents of

those who occasioned it, prior to their having been in any instance offered the Hatchet by the Kings Officers or Superintendants.

I have the honor to be, with the most perfect Respect, Sir

Your most obedient and

Most humble servant.

J. GRAVES SIMCOE.

Right Honorable Henry Dundas,
and his Majesty's Principal Secretarys of State.

Endorsed: Niagara, 3d July 1794.
Lt. Govr. Simcoe.
R. 20th Sept. No. 26. Ansd. Three Inclosures.

[Q 280–1, p 201]

HENRY DUNDAS, SEC'Y, TO LT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE.

WHITEHALL, 4th July 1794.

Lt. Govr. Simcoe, No. 6.

SIR,

I have received and laid before the King your letters numbered 21 and 22, with their several Inclosures.

I very much approve of the very prudent and pacific line of conduct, which you have adopted, in consequence of General Wayne's supposed approach to the vicinity of Detroit.

This circumstance, added to the disunion, which has been effected of the Indians, altho' it increases the difficulty does not by any means lessen the actual necessity of avoiding if possible proceeding to extremities; at a moment, when it is to be hoped, that the presence of Mr. Jay, who is now here, may lead to a final termination of all disputes and a perfect good understanding between this Country and the States of America.

I am well aware that the consequence of Detroit may be affected without the post itself being actually molested; but you will always bear in mind that the *immediate* protection of the Post itself, is the only object to be attended to. It may not be improper whilst on this subject, to enclose to you an Extract from my answer to Lord Dorchester's Suggestions dated, the 17th July 1793, so far as the name relates to the light in which the posts on the American side of the Treaty Line are to be considered.

Having said this much I feel it quite unnecessary to add anything further on the subject, especially as, in selecting the places which you propose to occupy in Upper Canada, you seem perfectly well aware of the necessity of conducting His Majesty's Service in that Province, upon a principle, that the Posts on the American Side of the Treaty Line, can only be considered as temporary objects; a final arrangement with the United States of America, in all probability leading to their evacuation.

Your observation in No 22 upon the Chippewas being invited with the other Indians to the conference at Venango, is exceedingly proper, and strongly evinces the expediency there is, on our part, both for preserving the attachment of those Indians, who are within His Majesty's Provinces; & for securing their fidelity, by occupying such places, as may render them most dependent on His Majestys Government; and tend most to enable us to preserve with them, both a political and commercial connection

I am &c.

HENRY DUNDAS.

Endorsed: Drat.
To Lt. Govr. Simcoe, July 1794.

[Q 280–1, p 140]

HENRY DUNDAS, SEC'Y, TO LORD DORCHESTER.

The Rt. Honble Lord Dorchester.

WHITEHALL, 5th July 1794.

MY LORD,

No. 17 Feb 24. 18 —— 19 —— — Mar. 1. I have received & laid before the King your Lordship's Letters of the dates & numbers mentioned in the margin, together with their respective Inclosures.

20 — 25. 21 — 28. 22 —— I answer to No. 17, it appears to me, on preparing the memorial from the copy—hold Tenants on the Manor of Longueuil, and the opinion of the Solicitor General, which accompanies it, that the grievance stated in that memorial, where it exists, is strictly cognizable by the Courts of Justice, and is capable of receiving a Judicial Remedy, without any interference of the Legislature. The only doubt started is the Expence of an appeal to the King in Council, to which the Memoralists might be driven. But under such circumstances, the case of one is the case of all, and the

point of Law once established (if there be any doubt on that head) I cannot think it possible, that afterwards any of the Seigniors would prosecute vexatious appeals to the King in Council in the face of enlarged & liberal costs, which in such case the Court would most probably conceive itself warranted in granting, if the Provincial Judgement was affirmed.

The matters entertained in Your Lordships Letter No. 18 and its Inclosures are exceedingly important, especially when considered as connected with the present situation, temper and disposition of the American State. From my several Letters to Yourself & Major General Clarke which I take this opportunity of referring to in the margin, as well as from your own sentiments on this subject, your Lordship must be thoroughly impressed with the great consequence which His Majesty's Government attach to the preservation of Peace with America, and consequently to the avoiding, if possible, anything like Hostilities, in consequence of the disputes concerning the Treaty Line, and the Posts on the American side of it, in our possession. Your Lordship, I observe too, is perfectly well aware that there exists in the American States, a considerable & certainly a most violent party, whose views seem to be inimical to the real interests of their own Government, as well as of ours, and whose object appears to be, to drive all subsisting matters of dispute between the two countries, beyond the bounds of accommodation. Under these circumstances, and without being further informed of the reason, upon which the measures I am going to mention were founded, I should not deal fairly & candidly by Your Lordship, if I were not to express my apprehensions that your answer to the message from the Indians of the Upper Country, marked G. and your proposing to Colonel Simcoe, in Your Lordship's Letter to him marked C. to occupy nearly the same Posts on the Miamis River, which were demolished after the Peace, may not rather provoke Hostilities, than prevent them. On the subject of the above answer to the Indians, I wrote to Your Lordship of the 4th. ulto.; and with respect to the directions above mentioned for occupying the Posts on the Miamis River, I am afraid that they extend to what cannot be considered to be within the Limits of the Post at Detroit, the *immediate* protection of which, as well as of the other Posts in our possession, on the American side of the Treaty Line, is the only object to be attended to. It may not be improper whilst on this subject, to refer Your Lordship to my answer to my

To. Lt. Gov. Clarke. 15th Augt. 1792. 10th Decr.

To Lord Dorchester. 17 July, 1793. 8 Jany, 1794. 15 Feby. 4 June.

Suggestions, previous to your last departure from hence, dated 17th July 1793, an extract from which, so far as it relates to the Posts on the American Side of the Treaty Line, I herewith inclose.

The approbation of the mode proposed by Lieut Govr. Simcoe for occupying Upper Canada, which I have already signified to Your Lordship, and to himself, is, in a great measure, founded on the necessity of conducting His Majesty's Service in that Province upon a principle that the Posts can only be considered as temporary objects, leading in their evacuation, to a final arrangement, which, whenever it takes place, under what circumstances, the least possible detriment or inconvenience may be sustained by the Canadas, in consequence of giving up the Posts in question. Having laid all these circumstances fully before Your Lordship, I, at the same time, confess that I am well aware that the present disunion of the Indians, the progress of General Wayne towards Detroit, and the proceedings of the Americans on Lake Champlain, render the forebearing line of conduct, which is to be pursued, the more difficult, as it becomes the more necessary, which is in a more particular manner, the case at this moment, when it is to be hoped, that the presence of Mr. Jay, who is now here, may lead to a final termination of all disputes, and a perfect good understanding between the two countries. On the other hand, it is equally important that, with the most pacific views, on the part of the King's Government, every possible provision should be made, which His Majesty's Service will at this moment admit of, against the possibility of a contrary disposition on the part of America. I therefore take this opportunity of informing Your Lordship, that in addition to the Fleet under Admiral Murray (which is on its way to Halifax, as stated in the letter to Your Lordship, dated the 9th of May last) a 44 gun ship and a Frigate will sail from hence for Quebec, in the course of this summer, and remain during the winter on that Station, for the better protection of the Canadas, and for aiding and assisting Your Lordship's operations, if they should ultimately prove necessary.

It is proposed that the 44 gun ship should go by Martinique, in order to take such Artillery on board, as might be necessary for the King's Service in the Canadas, and likewise as many of the sick or convalescent Troops in the West Indies as she can conveniently accommodate, and who would immediately recover in the Canadas. A Transport may be added to her in aid of this service. I have also to inform Your Lordship that 4000 additional stand of

arms, with a suitable proportion of Ammunition, will be sent as early as possible; and I likewise hope, it may be convenient, in the course of the season, to send you some additional Landed Force for the further security of the Provinces of Canada.

Your Lordship's Letters No. 19 and 20 do not require any particular answer.

The broken condition of the Indian Confederacy, as stated in No. 21, and its Inclosures, will certainly relieve General Wayne from any material apprehensions on their account, at the same time, it becomes highly expedient on our part, both to preserve the attachment of those Indians who are within His Majesty's Provinces, and to secure their fidelity, by occupying such places, as may render them most dependent on His Majesty's Government. This, in a great degree, would be effected, by occupying the several Places in the Canadas, as proposed by Lieut Govr. Simcoe. These measures become the more necessary, as the Chippewas, who, Lieut Govr. Simcoe observes, inhabit the Country to the North of the Thames, are amongst those invited to the Conference to be held at Venango, as stated in the Message from the President of the United States, delivered by General Chapin.

I very much approve of Your Lordship's attention to the frauds and embezzlements committed in the Indian Department at Michilimackinac, and I trust that under the active Superintendence of Colonel McKee, they will be for the future, entirely suppressed. In the meantime, I am of opinion, for the sake of example, that the Attorney General, if sufficient proof can be obtained for that purpose, should be directed to prosecute both Messrs. Gautier and Langlade for the frauds committed by them.

The attention paid to the person of His Royal Highness Prince Edward, by the Province under Your Lordships' command cannot fail of being highy pleasing to His Majesty.

I am, &c

HENRY DUNDAS.

Endorsed: Drat.
To the Rt. Honble Lord Dorchester, 5th July 1794.

[Q 67, p 175]

LETTER RESPECTING INDIANS AND ADVICES FROM DETROIT.

Extract of a letter, dated Quebec 8th July 1794.

"We are, thanks to thee Almighty, still in peace here, and I hope "we may remain so; but the unfriendly, nay hostile disposition of our "Neighbors, render its continuance extremely doubtful. The disposition of the Executive Government of America, so far as it is to be "collected from their public prints, does not manifest any seeming "wish or desire to depart from their declared system of Neutrality "But the Passions and Prejudices of the People (however unaccountable it may appear), seem so completely and generally roused, that "it appears to me doubtful indeed, whether it will be in the power "of so feeble a government to restrain them from hostilities.

"By the proceedings in Congress, it appears that Privateers have "been actually fitted out at Charleston, and a Member of Congress "also states, that British Prizes have been brought in:—Such acts "as these, if Fact, must bring on a Rupture.—From the Tenor of "Lord Dorchesters' Talk with the Indians, and the circumstances of "Governor Simcoe's building a Fort at the Falls of the Miami "River, I have been induced to conceive, that Government must "have forseen a Rupture to be inevitable. However the Americans "seem to have plenty on their hands with the Indians, who by the "latest advices from Detroit, are all in combination against them "from that place to the Gulf of Mexico; and it appears, as if General Wayne & his Army were in a pitiful situation. I send you "herewith Extracts from the public prints, relative to Lord Dorchester's Talk with the Indians, and the correspondence between the "British Ministers in America and the American Minister, in consequence; as also, Two Speeches of Govr. Adams of Boston; the "latter, a strong emblem of the disposition and character of the "Times in that Country.—These papers, if you Judge proper, you "will have the goodness to forward to my Uncle the Governor, with "my most affectionate and grateful Love."

"The Pains which have been taken to corrupt, to delude and "wean the People of this Province from their Loyalty & attachment "to Government, and to instill into their minds those desperate and "mischievous principles which have prevailed in another Country, have "had effect here, and so openly have those Sentiments been made "manifest, as to cause a very active exertion of the Government in "apprehending and imprisoning several persons charged with Seditious Practices; and the alarm has spread so general, as to cause

"a very respectable association of the People to come forward, with "a declared Resolution, of bringing to Justice all disaffected Per- "sons, and to support and defend the government at every risk."

Endorsed:
Extract of a Letter, dated Quebec 8th July 1794.

[Q 57-2, p 366]

OBSERVATIONS BY ISAAC TODD AND SIMON MC TAVISH, MERCHANTS.

The Merchants in Canada Trading to the Indian Country send their goods from Montreal in the spring of the year to Detroit, Michilimackinac & the Grand Portage; where they meet their Clerks and Traders, who have wintered in the interior Country; receive their Furs, & deliver to them the British Goods, with which they return to winter again with the Indians.

Goods from this trade which leave London in Spring 1794 are sent to the Indian Country in 1795, and their produce in Furs does not come to the above posts until 1796 so that it requires at least Two years to obtain those returns & get them down to Montreal.

Most of the Posts where the Traders winter are within the Limits claimed by the Americans (part of the Trade from the Grand Portage excepted) & several of the Trading places on the Mississippi are on the Spanish side of that River, & all the Lands in that Country (the Forts and environs excepted) are the property of the Indians & ought in justice to them to be declared neutral ground, for alike for British & American subjects to trade in, & to pass the posts of each other without restriction or hindrance, but before giving up the Posts, both countries ought to unite to obtain a just and & proper Peace between the Americans & Indians, and each to guarantee it & declare their intention to protect the subjects of the other, who may meet with injury from the Indians; For was the Posts to be delivered up, or an intention of doing so made known previous to such arrangement, its probable the Indians thinking they were to be abandoned by the British, would in resentment, destroy all the Traders in their Country, as also the defenseless Inhabitants in Upper Canada.

On arranging matters with America, should it be concluded to cede to them the Posts we now occupy, within the limits prescribed by the Treaty of Paris; it should be held perfectly secret from the

Indians, until completely settled as before mentioned. And then to allow at least Three years before delivering them up, for the British Subjects to regulate their Trade, & withdraw such of their property and people as they may deem necessary from the Indian Country.

On delivering up the Posts, particularly that of Detroit, where there is a valuable property in Lands & Houses, that property it is presumed, will be secured to the present possessors, and as the British & American Posts & Settlements in several places, will be separated only by a River, the navigation of which is free to both, it would be necessary for the credit & good government of each Country that some arrangement should be made that the subjects of either committing Felonies or Crimes or Debtors shou'd not be screen'd or protected by the other.

The Furs imported from Canada at the average price of the last 5 years amount to about £250,000 all of which are had from the Indians in exchange for British Manufactured goods.—of the above amount there is not more than £100,000 in value comes from the ports of Niagara Detroit Michilimackinac & their Dependencies or rather the Country ceded to America by the Treaty of Peace, but owing to some oversight or want of knowledge of the Country Mr. Oswald settling the Line of Separation between the United States and us in passing the falls of St. Marie at the discharge of Lake Superior, allowing them the south side of the River, precludes us from entering the Lake if they choose to prevent us—as the North Side is not Navigable for such Craft as are used in the Trade & there is no landing place. Likewise at the Grand Portage on Lake Superior (where we carry our goods nine miles over a mountain, till we fall into the Long Lake) it is situated on the American side of the Line, about six miles from the Water Communication; which is inaccessible for a considerable distance on account of Falls & Rapids, nor is it possible to make a carrying place on our Side of the Line, the Mountains are so steep. It will therefore be necessary in order to preserve the N. W. Trade to this Country which is near £100,000 of the exports in furs from Canada, that some stipulations shall be made to continue us in possession of our present establishment at St. Marie and the Grand Portage.

Endorsed:
Observations by Isaac Todd & Simon McTavish, who are interested and represent the principal Houses carrying on ye Northwest & other Indian Trade in the Canadas.

[Q 57-2, p 382]

STATEMENT CONCERNING TRADE AT DETROIT AND OTHER POSTS.

The Produce in England of Furrs & Skins, imported from the Province of Quebec, taking the Trade at the average of the last ten years, amounts to the sum of Two hundred thousand pounds p. annum—which Furrs &c. are traded for in different districts as nearly as can be ascertained as under vizt—

	£
The whole Country & Posts below Montreal	30,000
The Grand River, the North side of the Lakes Ontario, Huron & Superior	30,000
In the Country generally called the North West*	40,000
In the Countries to the Southward of the Lakes, The Trade of which is principally brought to the posts of Detroit and Michilimackinac, there being very little Indian Trade at Niagara	100,000
As above	£200,000

Altho' there is no Indian Trade of consequence at Niagara, that post is the Key of the Communication to the principal Trade of the Upper Countries of Canada. It is very uncertain whether the Trade to the N. West can be carried on otherwise than by the post of Michilimackinac. The Americans' claim extends to the Lake of the Woods, if admitted they command the present communication from Canada to all that Country & in that case, they will have also the Trade as stated above at £40,000. The Trade last stated at £100,000 is carried on by Traders who go into different districts as under.

In the District of the Garrison of Detroit vizt

The Fort of Detroit, Sagana & the South side of Lake Huron	1,000	
Miamis & Wabash Country	2,000	
Sandusky	400	
Furrs estimated at £12 each is	Say 3,400 packs of	40,800

*Since this estimate was made up in 1790, The Trade to the N. West, estimated then at £40,000, has greatly increased & in the last two years is supposed to have doubled. The Traders, progressively penetrating further into the Country. The trade at the nearer posts continues with little variation, but must decrease as the Countries settle.

In the District of Michilimackinac, vizt :

On Lake Michigan.	The Grand River	100
	St. Josephs	300
	Chegago	100
	Milwaki	120
La Bay, or Green Bay, including the upper ports of the Mississippi, the South side of Lake Superior		300
The Illinois Country		600
Furrs estimated at £20 each	Say 3,220 packs of	60,400
		101,200

This Computation exceeds the sum in the General estimate as above £1,200. From this short State of the Indian Trade, it appears that if the Country, & posts are ceded to America, agreeable to Treaty, $\frac{3}{10}$ of the furr Trade of Canada, will only remain for certain to Great Britain. $\frac{1}{5}$ is dependent upon contingent circumstances. The remaining half will inevitably be lost. It is true, that probably $\frac{2}{3}$ths of the Merchandize, necessary for the supply of the Indians, will in any event, be furnished by Great Britain, but the labour of a great number of persons, employed in the Trade from Canada, is of Importance, as well as the Trade with the British Settlers at Detroit, where, the fixt property, & cultivation is of considerable Value.

It is presumed, that America is not well prepared to Garrison the Forts, to protect the Traders & carry on the Trade with effect, and that dissatisfaction, or Wars, with the Indian Nations, will be the inevitable consequence of their being abandoned by the British Troops.

Endorsed:
Communicated by Mr. Inglis of Mark Lane.

[Q 57-2, p 385]

LETTER FROM LORD DORCHESTER.

Extract from Lord Dorchester of the 11 July No 14.

"Should they (the subjects of the States) persevere in forming "an Establishment on any of the Lakes or near our Posts you will "send an intelligent person to made a demand by what authority the "Establishment is ordered & to require them to desist from such "aggressions, in case of refusal, a formal protest in writing signed "by the person you send, should be left with the Officer who com- "mands, stating that the parties concerned in these measures will be "considered as violating the King's Rights in the Indian Country, "& as aiming by these acts to destroy the amity & good under- "standing which has hitherto subsisted between the King of Great "Britain & the United States of America."

J. G. S.

Endorsed:
In Lt. Govr. Simcoe's No. 31 of the 10th Augt, 1794.

[Q 280-2, p 289]

LETTER FROM LT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE.

I am commanded to declare that during the Inexecution of the Treaty of Peace between Great Britain & the United States, & until the existing differences respecting it, shall be mutually & finally adjusted, The Taking Possession of any part of the Indian Territory, either for the purposes of War or Sovereignty, is held to be a direct violation of His Britannic Majesty's Rights, as they unquestionably existed before the Treaty, & has an immediate tendency to interrupt, & in its progress to destroy, that good understanding which has hitherto subsisted between His Britannic Majesty & the United States of America.

I therefore require you to desist from any such aggression.

J. G. S.

Endorsed: D.
In Lt. Govr. Simcoe's No. 31 of the 10th Augt. 1794. (3)

[Q 280-2, p 290]

LORD DORCHESTER TO LIEUT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE.

QUEBEC, 11th July 1794.

SIR,

I can learn nothing concerning the French Emigrants at Albany, nor of Mr. Des Jardins who solicited your Permission to purchase Provisions in Upper Canada for a Settlement in that part of the Indian Country Called the Genesee. I am inclined to think something insiduous was concealed under that application, as well as under the request made by Mr. Williamson.

Notwithstanding our speedy and full execution of the Treaty of Peace on the side of the Atlantic, it soon became evident that the States were not disposed to comply with it, when it bound them to certain conditions which they conceived to be contrary to their Interests; we therefore found it necessary for our own security to suspend that part of it which related to the Indian Country and the Posts situated therein, where of course the Kings' preeminence (according to the Laws & usages established in such cases among European Nations) remains precisely the same as before, and will continue so till the complete execution of the Treaty by the Government of the United States; when no doubt proper orders will issue for delivering over on this side also, whatever they may justly claim in consequence of it. But those Gentlemen urged on by their impatience, and presuming on our desire for Peace, have advanced to put themselves in possession and now pretend to call the Indian Country their Country; and the Privileges granted on conditions which they never performed, their undoubted Rights; and the Line designated in the Treaty their acknowledged Boundary; affecting to consider our reoccupying a Post at the Rapids of the Miamis as War itself! Having nothing to support their Language but Force and their own Assertions, they want it would seem, by oblique applications to draw some of the King's officers into unguarded Acts or Expressions which they may hold out as an acknowledgment of their claims and a justification of their conduct; it was therefore with great propriety that you refused the Requests made for Provisions to forward such purposes.

Should they persevere in forming an Establishment on any of the Lakes, or near any of our Posts, you will send an intelligent

Person to make a demand, by what authority the Establishment is ordered, and to require them to desist from such aggressions: In case of refusal, a formal Protest in writing signed by the Person you send, should be left with the officer who commands, stating that the Parties concerned in these measures will be considered as violating the King's Rights in the Indian Country, and as aiming by these acts to destroy the amity and good understanding which has hitherto subsisted between the King of Great Britain and the United States of America.

For further information concerning my ideas, and in answer to your desire to have my orders on this head, I must refer you to my Letter No 1 which is all I can say in the present condition of things.

But if after all our forbearance towards the United States, the influence of French Intrigue should draw them into a war with us, which is more than probable, I shall be glad to know the extent of your combined Powers in Upper Canada, and what Force you may be able to assemble for your own defence and preservation, also how far you may have it in your power, not only to repel, but to retaliate any hostile attempts.

I am with regard Sir

Y. M. O. H. S.

Lieutenant Governor Simcoe. DORCHESTER.

[Q 70, p 118]

FORM OF PROTEST RESPECTING INDIAN LANDS.

Form of the Protest.

I am commanded to declare, that during the inexecution of the Treaty of Peace between Great Britain and the United States, and until the existing differences respecting it, shall be mutually & finally adjusted; the taking possession of any part of the Indian Territory, either for the purposes of War or Sovereignty, is held to be a direct violation of His Britannic Majesty's Rights, as they unquestionably existed before the Treaty, and has an immediate tendency to interrupt, and in its progress to destroy, that good understanding which has hitherto subsisted between His Britannic Majesty and the United States of America. I therefore require you to desist from any such aggression.

Endorsed: A.
In Lord Dorchester's No. 61 to Mr. Dundas of the 1st Octr. 1794.

[Q 70, p 121]

LORD GRENVILLE TO MR. HAMMOND.

[No. 14.]

DOWNING STREET, 15th July 1794.

SIR,

Your several Dispatches to No. 26 inclusive have been duly received and laid before the King.

The shortness of the time which I understand to be allowed for the sailing of the American Ship which carries this Dispatch, and the uncertainty of the Conveyance, do not allow me to enter into the particulars of what has passed here since the arrival of Mr. Jay, on the subject of the important commission with which he is charged. I shall therefore confine myself to the informing you, that the general language and conduct of that gentleman has hitherto been satisfactory to this government, and that, in consequence of a Conversation which we have had relative to the supposed intention of His Majesty's officers in Canada, to establish a Fort on the little Miamis River, the motives & apprehensions, in which that measure may probably have originated, and the consequences to which it may have led, he gave me the most explicit assurances, that General Wayne had no orders which could authorize his attacking any of the Posts held by His Majesty since the Peace; and it was agreed between us, that, during the present negociation, and until the conclusion of it, all things ought to remain & be preserved in Statu quo, that, therefore, both parties should continue to hold their Possessions, and that all encroachments on either side, should be done away; that all Hostile Measures (if any such should have taken place) shall cease and that, in case it should unfortunately have happened that Prisoners or Property should have been taken, the Prisoners shall be released and the Property restored and that both governments should immediately give Orders & Instructions accordingly.

Orders to this effect will accordingly be sent to Lord Dorchester and Colonel Simcoe, by the first direct conveyance to Quebec; and I inclose you a Duplicate in order that you may forward it to Upper Canada.

I am &c.

GRENVILLE.

Mr. Hammond.

Endorsed:
Copy of a Letter from Lord Grenville to Mr. Hammond, dated Downing Street 15 July 1794.

[Q 67, p 184]

JOHN CRAIGIE, COMM'Y GEN., TO LORD DORCHESTER.

QUEBEC, 19th July 1794.

MY LORD,

Your Lordship having desired that I should state the several transactions and circumstances which have taken place in regard to the supplies of Flour received at the Posts in Upper Canada, for the use of His Majesty's Troops, having reference to the objects contained in a letter to Your Lordship from Mr. Rose Secretary to the Right Honorable the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury dated the 3rd April last, I beg leave to submit.

That in 1786, not more than two years after the first settlement of the Disbanded Troops and Loyalists in those quarters, proposals were made thro' the Commanding Officers at Niagara, Detroit and Kingston, on the part of the settlers, offering to furnish certain quantities of Flour the produce of their Lands for the use of Government. These proposals for the advantage of the settlers in general, were thought deserving of encouragement.

The inclosed copies of my reports to Brigadr. General Hope of the 15th August and 3rd September 1786 (No 1 and 2) may serve to recall to mind the principles upon which this object was Regulated in the first instance.

It being found that in general, dependance might be placed on these supplies, and Your Lordship having thought proper to sanction and continue the receival of Flour the produce of the new Settlements, so much of the permanent stock which the contractors were obliged to keep in store, was dispensed with, *and stated accordingly in your Lordship's certificate to the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury ever since November 1787.*

One year of failure and consequent scarcity excepted in *1789*, the Flour has been supplied for the posts in Upper Canada from the settlements together with small quantities of Pease since 1791.

Altho' I certainly cannot take upon me to say that no abuse or partiality existed in the distribution of the indulgence granted by government, I can safely aver that no complaint was ever made, or came to my knowledge, excepting in regard to the Post of Detroit, at which place a new Regulation was made by myself on the spot in September 1788, with the concurrence and approbation of the officer commanding there, which from Colonel Simcoe's Report appears to have continued to the last with the desired effect.

My letters to General Clarke of the 2nd August 1792 (No 3)

referred to by Colonel Simcoe's report, and of the 27th October same year *not cited* (No 4) will explain to Your Lordship my opinion, that after these periods the indulgence could no longer be continued, without being greatly liable to abuse.

I have had reason to know that Colonel Simcoe, was desired by General Clarke to take such measures on this subject as might to him appear necessary and proper.

The Commissaries at Kingston Niagara and Detroit were refered by me to Colonel Simcoe for Instructions, in regard to the receival of Flour and Pease for the early supply 1793; and certificates in the usual form signed by the Commissary and approved by the officers commanding at Niagara and Detroit having been presented to me, they were not admitted untill sanctioned by Colonel Simcoe himself ,as will appear by the inclosed copies of correspondence (No 5.) and from which also I trust Your Lordship will perceive there was no want of caution on my part to guard against abuses.

In consequence of Major General Clarke's directions on the 14th March 1793 I acquainted Colonel Simcoe that "Mr. Alexander Davi- "son being appointed by the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's "Treasury to execute the business of supplying the Troops in Can- "ada with Provisions, by *Commission*, from the expiration of the "present contract, vizt on the 17th instant, has named the under- "mentioned persons to furnish such supplies of Flour and of Pease, "as may be required for His Majesty's service in Upper Canada "vizt.

"Mr. Cartwright at Kingston

"Mr. R. Hamilton at Niagara

"Messrs. Askin & D. Robertson at Detroit.

"And that Instructions are accordingly forwarded by this oppor- "tunity to those persons to furnish the whole quantities which may "be required, excepting such part thereof as may previous to the "time when these instructions shall reach the several posts, have "been delivered or engaged for under Your Excellency's sanction, "on the terms suggested in my Letter to His Excellency the "Major General of the 27th October last, or, on any other terms "which Your Excellency may have deemed expedient and proper."

The mode of providing the supplies was from that period no longer under my control, or subject to be regulated by me in any respect. Some complaints however having reached Major General Clarke, I was desired to state my opinion on the subject which is also inclosed, copy No 6.

The means there proposed in outline I still conceive to be well calculated for the object in future, whatever Agent or Person may be employed therein. In regard to the past, as it has been advanced by Mr. McGill in his report "That Flour might have been pro- "vided for government on terms much lower than the Article has "been charged."

I conceive justice to Government, or to the parties concerned, requires that immediate enquiry should be made into the whole of these transactions.

Your Lordship having further desired, that I should state my opinion on the means of carrying into effect the plan approved by the Board of Treasury for providing the supplies for the Posts in Upper Canada, I beg leave to submit.

That these Settlements will, in tolerable years, furnish the quantities of Flour required, I entertain no doubt, together with considerable proportions of Pease and Pork which will gradually increase, but upon which no absolute dependence can, in my opinion, be placed, especially as the quality of the country cured Pork is not yet ascertained by trial; at the same time without due caution and a well arranged system, very serious inconveniences might arise from partial failures being left unprovided for.

The general principles laid down by Mr. McGill coincide nearly with my own ideas, as stated in No 6. The details I certainly am not equally competent to judge of. I must however observe that it appears to me that to give full effect to his benevolent intentions in the very minute receivals and payments, will require additional labour and attendance, all which must be provided at the expence of government.

Much will depend on the nature of the appointment of the Agent or Person named to provide the supplies.

The Regulations established by your Lordship for the purchase and payment of public stores, and all other expenditures paid out of the contingencies of the Army, may be made to extend to every Person employed under Your Lordship as Commander in Chief; but if the Agent for providing the supplies of provisions is to act under Instructions from the Civil Governor or Lieutenant Governor only, the check and controul established by the Regulations, I should conceive, would no longer apply.

In regard to the propriety of similar measures being adopted in Lower Canada. There cannot exist a doubt that Lower Canada is more to be depended on than Upper Canada, for all the quantities

of Flour and Pease that may be required for the supply of His Majesty's Troops. For Pork and Butter I do not think dependance can be placed at present, either as to the quantity or quality. Considerable quantities of fresh Beef may often be provided on reasonable terms in the winter season—Rice must at all times be imported.

I have the honor to be
very respectfully
My Lord
Your Lordship's
Most obedient
humble Servant
JOHN CRAIGIE,
Comr. Genl.

His Excellency Lord Dorchester, &c. &c. &c.

Endorsed: B.
Duplicate of a letter from Commissary General to His Excelly Lord Dorchester. dated at Quebec the 19th July 1794.
In Lt. Govr. Simcoe's of the 19th Decr. 1794.
In Lord Dorchester's No. 25 to Simcoe.

[Q 281-1, p 110]

COL. A. MC KEE TO LIEUT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE.

RAPIDS, 25th July 1794.

The informant after recollecting himself & being free from the apprehensions he was under yesterday, further says, that Captain Gibson, Adjutant Drake, & Cornet Posey were wounded in the attack at Fort Recovery, that all the Pack horsemen, except 7 or 8, were killed, with upwards of thirty of the Regular Troops, a great many of whom were also wounded: That the Escort consisted of 150 Infantry & 50 Cavalry.

That General Wilkinson left the army some time ago & is gone to Kentucky, & that Fort Jefferson is now commanded by Major Doyle of the 1st Regt. He further says that Wells, May and Millar (3 Spies) were not in the action, for that 2 days before, they returned to Fort Grenville from a Scout, & reported that the Mountain Leader the Chickasaw Chief, was killed.

A. McKEE, S. I. A.

Endorsed:
In Lt. Govr. Simcoe's No. 29 of the 5th Augt. 1794. (2)

[Q 76, p 16]

COL. A. MC KEE TO LIEUT. GOV. J. G. SIMCOE.

RAPIDS, 26th July 1794.

SIR,

Your Excellency's letters of the 10th & 16th Inst with their enclosures reached me this morning.

The total separation of the Indians, which I apprehended in my last has been prevented & it is a great satisfaction to me, to be able to announce the prospect of their speedily re-collecting themselves, upwards of 300 of those who live at a distance stopped here among whom are some of the principal chiefs of their several Nations who are now sending messages to their villages, for their warriors to collect themselves immediately and join them at this place. This must necessarily cause the consumtion of a much greater Quantity of Provisions than has been usual, I think it proper therefore to apprise Your Excellency thereof, that I may receive your commands should such issues be thought inexpedient, but without such supplies it will be impossible either for them or me to remain here.

Several Parties of Indians are now about the Forts which will greatly interrupt Mr. Wayne's communication. A mixed Band of Ottawas, Chipawas and Putiwatimie's consisting of 60 men marched from this place on the 22d Inst and a Party of Wyandots are following them this day. A Party of Delawares also set off from the Glaze on Horseback about the 20th in order to overtake an American scouting Party who the evening before carried off a Miamis Man from the little Glaze, I feel myself much interested in the Success of this Party, lest the Prisoner may be induced to tell of the separation of the Indians & thereby hasten the advance of the army.

A small Party of Chipawas brought a Prisoner here two days ago and the Scalps of a Chickasaw and a white man the information of the Prisoner is herewith enclosed.

On the 22d I wrote to Lieut Colonel England and informed him of the disregard paid to Your Excellency order with regard to selling Rum to the Indians and I am persuaded no effectual stop will be put to it until a punishment is annexed to a breach of the order. I also informed him in a subsequent letter, that the French Traders at the Glaze are using all their endeavours to prevail on the Indians to quit that place now become so dangerous and troublesome, and go with them to settle near Lake Michigan and to

leave the defence of this Country to those who wish to stay in it and to their Father. Your Excellency will readily anticipate the fatal effects which must result from the adoption of this plan, nor is it impossible that it may be the effects of Intrigues of a more dangerous nature.

The most material articles of the Indian supplies are not come up yet vizt, Blankets, Guns, Rifles, Ball, flints, Knives, Tobacco & Paint, so that it is out of my power to make a distribution, the two last articles are so necessary that I made a requisition to Colonel England for the purchase of some but he writes me that he does not consider himself authorized to approve of it and I am now without any of these articles which to an Indian is as necessary as food and as constantly called for by them.

With regard to Great Britain having occupied a Post on this River, it has been uniform ever since the 1781 and was always considered as a dependency of Detroit--Captain Pots of the 8th Regiment built a Fort at this place in that Year and the British Flag has been flying every year since that period, during the Summer months while I was waiting the arrival of the different nations of Indians, to deliver to them the presents directed by His Majesty.

This Post was again re-occupied in 1786 by a Party of the 53d Regiment. But the Dependencies of Detroit, on this River, existed from a much earlier date: ever since the Peace of 63 Great Britain has occupied a Post at the Miamis towns, often as a garrison & sometimes as a Trading Post, until General Harmar's invasion in 1790 when the Indians moved to the Glaze; it then lost its consequence as a Trading Post and the Traders followed the Indians thither. The posesion of these Posts has never been given up, and at this day are considered as the Dependencies of Detroit.

The Wabash Indians have again made their appearance at this Council fire and on the 14th Inst. a Deputation from the Kicapoes, Outatanous and Piankishaws, requested a Council with the Chiefs of the different nations, at which they expressed their sorrow for having listened to the big Knives and beg of the Confederacy to take Pity on them and receive them again among them as Brothers. They were answered by Egushawa in the name of the other nations, who after strongly warning them against an insiduous enemy who had already led them from the pursuit of their true Interest, readmitted them into the Confederacy, on condition, however, that they

immediately collect the Warriors and assemble them at the Glaze as the only proof of their sincerity which they could now give. The Kickapoe chief expressed great satisfaction & promised that he would go Home & collect his people without delay.

I have the honor to be
Your Excellency's
most obedient and
faithful Humble Servt.
A. McKee.

His Excellency Governor Simcoe, &c. &c.

Endorsed:
In Lt. Govr. Simcoe's No. 29 of the 5th Augt. 1794. (1)

[Q 70, p 11]

LORD DORCHESTER TO HENRY DUNDAS, SEC'Y.

[No. 42.]

Quebec, 28th July 1794.

Sir,

The Indians of the Six Nations have not succeeded in their endeavours to persuade the Troops belonging to the United States to retire from Le Boeuf near Presqu' Isle; but they [A] obtained a promise from them not to advance & that they would represent the desire of the Indians to their Governor. The Latter still insist on the Boundary Line at first proposed, and the Commissioners from the States continue to put them off with fair Speeches and Professions, probably to prevent them from joining the Western Indians till they see the success of Major General Wayne who is daily expected to come to a decisive action, or to gain time till their Intrigues have brought some over & disunited the rest.

[B] The Insinuations made in the Speech sent by Mr. Wayne "that the Chiefs of the Six Nations who died last year at the Council held at the Miamis, had been poisoned by the Western Indians" occasioned great indignation in all present, some of the Warriors menaced the Messenger for the Insult.

Mr. Williamson, it is said, is proceeding at the Sodus with the same appearance of hostility; that he has contracted for the building a vessel of 45 Tons at the big Sodus.

I am with great Respect
& Esteem Sir
Your most obedient
humble Servant
DORCHESTER.

The Rt. Hon. Henry Dundas.

Endorsed: Quebec, 28th July 1794.
Lord Dorchester, R. 8th Sept. No. 42.
Ansd. Sept. 16. (Two Inclosures.)

[Q 68, p 216]

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